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# JERUSALEM

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**TO OUR READERS:**

**In compliance with the Israeli military authorities, and under the guise of the much criticized Al-Fajr is required to submit all material prepared for publication in this weekly, and also in the Arabic Daily and Bi-Weekly Hebrew Edition, to the Israeli censorship authorities, who use this blanket authority excessively. The material appearing on pages labeled with letters has all been censored and expunged by the Israeli authorities. We found it necessary and relevant to publish it on these pages in the foreign edition.**

# PLO Retaliates Against Conditions At Ansar

Israeli soldiers policing al-Ansar detention camp, South Lebanon, shot and killed a Palestinian prisoner, June 12, according to Israeli Radio.

Earlier in the week Abu Jihad, deputy commander of the Palestinian forces, announced that the PLO will cease its "kind treatment" of the six Israeli prisoners it is holding until Israel changes its treatment of al-Ansar prisoners.

The Israeli military spokesman, who announced the fatal incident, claimed that the prisoner was killed while trying to escape from the camp.

The reports of the incident coincided with growing concern over the conditions of al-Ansar prisoners, who, for the past six days, have been protesting their detention. The estimated 5,000 prisoners in the camp, have burned tents the raised banners denouncing their continued detention.

The demonstrations started on the first anniversary of the war. Lebanese TV reported, June 9, that the protests were renewed after three prisoners were killed in mysterious circumstances. *Al Nahar* Lebanese daily quoted residents from Ansar village that they heared gunshots on Tuesday night (June 7) inside the prison.

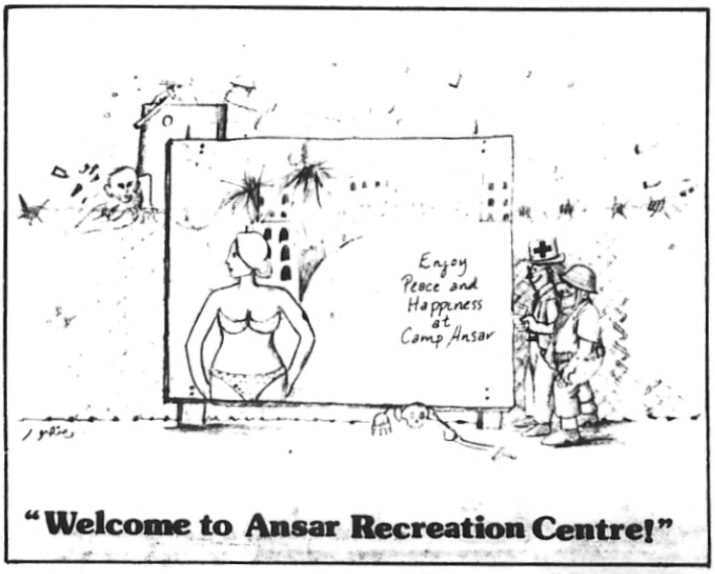
Following these reports, Khalil Wazir, military deputy of PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat told reporters, in a press conference held in the Beqa'a valley, June 10, that radios, televisions, newspapers, and many other privileges which the six Israeli prisoners have been enjoying since their capture some nine months ago will no longer be given to them. Abu Jihad further said that outside visits to the prisoners will also be suspended. Wazir explained that these measures were instigated by information they received on the conditions of al-Ansar prisoners. He said the shooting of three prisoners, and the Israeli authorities' decision to put the prisoners' committee in solitary confinement compelled them to take such a step. The decision to forbid visits was later rescinded. The Israeli press carried an interview with one of the prisoners, June 16, complaining about the new conditions.

The Palestinian official revealed to the attending journalists a letter from Salah Ta'mari, head of the prisoners committee inside the detention camp, in which he says that the committee members were put in isolation cells as a punishment for the protests which were taking place in the prison.

PLO spokesman Abd al-Muhsen Abu Meizar announced, June 10, that talks for prisoner exchange between the PLO and Israel were suspended after Israel put new and "unacceptable" conditions.

Al-Ansar prison, which was established almost a year ago west of the town of Nabatiya in South Lebanon has been closed to news reporters. Only the International Committee of the Red Cross is allowed access to prisoners and they refrain from making public statements. Newly released prisoners provide the only public information on al-Ansar. The exact number of prisoners in the compound is not known, especially with the new round up of Palestinian and Lebanese prisoners during the past two months. The last ICRC figure was around 4,000.

continued on page 2




**"Welcome to Ansar Recreation Centre!"**

# WEST BANK TEACHERS BANNED FROM POLITICAL ACTIVITY

West Bank teachers are forbidden to undertake political work, contact the media, stand for election in any institution or work outside school hours, according to rules laid down in a circular issued by the Israeli officer administering education in the occupied territories. The Israelis said they enacted the new rule because of "indecent activities conducted by the government employees."

The brief circular, issued June 14 at the end of the just-concluded academic year, states that teachers are not allowed to engage in political activity, join a political party, or express support for one. Teachers believe it was distributed late to stop them from talking about it. Participation in strikes or sit-ins or signing memoranda opposing the 'civil administration' are similarly outlawed. The circular bars teachers from publishing anything in the press "without approval by authorised personnel." They cannot edit or co-edit any periodical.

At the social level, participation in any election campaign or nomination for candidacy in administrative committees of any institution are now outlawed.

Perhaps most restricting will be the the economic strictures. Employees are now disallowed from working in any job in after-duty hours, on pain of having their salaries immediately transferred to the 'civil administration'. Business deals or operations are also forbidden them. Teachers have been complaining for years about the steady erosion of their wages — many have taken second jobs just to make ends meet.

One copy of the notice was sent to each school. Teachers were ordered not to copy, discuss or talk to the press about it.

"It is very dangerous," commented one education source who asked not to be named, for obvious reasons.

# GAZA JOURNALIST FACES IMPRISONMENT

Hassan Waheidi, *Al Fajr* correspondent in Gaza, was sentenced to two months imprisonment, 10 months suspended for three years, and a IS10,000 fine, June 9. He was convicted of bringing "illegal publications" to the Gaza Strip. He has already spent one month of his sentence in Gaza prison. *Al Fajr* learned that no material evidence was presented against him in court. Family sources said that the military prosecutor based his charges on an alleged telephone conversation between Waheidi and the *Al Fajr* Arabic office in Jerusalem, during which the accused requested some copies of *The Sabra and Shatila Massacres*, a book which was published in Jerusalem, and banned from other parts of the occupied territories. He was also convicted of distributing *al-Awda* bimonthly magazine. The journalist confessed to the charges in court.

Waheidi has been in detention since May 5, when he was arrested from his home in the Rimal quarter in Gaza. His house was extensively searched, apparently for "illegal publications." Nothing, however, was found or taken.

Waheidi, who has been working as *Al Fajr's* correspondent in Gaza for four years, has been summoned to the military compound several times for questioning about news stories which appeared in the newspaper.

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IN LEBANON

# ISRAELIS CONDUCT MASS ARRESTS AS DEATH TOLL MOUNTS

In more than 10 armed attacks against Israeli troops in Lebanon, during the week of June 10-15, three soldiers were killed, three wounded, and one captured by the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces. In a desperate attempt to contain the escalating war of attrition, the Israeli military command started implementing a series of measures, including mass arrest of Lebanese and Palestinian residents.

**State-run Lebanese Radio reported, June 14, that Israeli and Syrian positions in the Beqa'a valley exchanged heavy artillery and tank fire for about one hour, on the same night. The radio report, which was denied by the Israelis, said the clash occured near the village of Hosh Harim, 14 kilometers south-east of Zahleh. The clash began at 9:15 pm, and lasted until after 10:00 pm, the radio report said. Syria refrained from commenting on the report.**

The incident, which sent the official count of Israeli casualties to the 500mark, occurred on June 10. Foreign journalists' reports said that a group of commandos attacked two military vehicles outside the village of Deir Qanoun, north-east of Tyre, at around 5:30 am. Three soldiers, including one sergeant and the patrol commander, were killed, a fourth seriously wounded, and the fifth abducted by the fighters, who fled into the nearby mountains, before Israeli troop reinforcements stormed the area.

Later, hundreds of soldiers, under the command of Israeli chief of staff Moshe Levy, and the commander of the northern region, Amir Drori, began a massive search of the area. The army blocked all entrances to the village of Deir Qanoun, and ordered the 2,000 residents to gather in the center. The army then separated the men from the women, and detained more than 250 men. The soldiers also made a house-to-house search for the attackers and the abducted Israeli soldier. Later reports said that the seige on the village was intensified and Israeli troops prohibited the entry of food trucks sent by the International Committee of the Red Cross. They also informed the population that the seige would continue until the Israeli soldier is freed. On Israel TV news, June 15, it was reported that the ICRC nad been turned back from the village 14 times.

As a result of the increased casualties among the Israeli army, the general staff appear to be in favour of a partial withdrawal to Awali or the Zahrani rivers. According to Israeli newspaper reports Israeli generals are convinced that military attacks under the present lines are uncontrolable. *The Jerusalem Post*, in its June 12 issue, listed six security measures which are in effect, or have been introduced recently, in order to minimise casualties, among them, erecting fortifications along both sides of roads used by the Israeli army; increasing patrols; establishing more check-points; cutting down trees, especially near areas of heavy army presence and allocating funds for more effective intelligence gathering.

The paper, however said that these measures had little effect on the number or the efficiency of the strikes. According to Israeli estimates for the past six weeks, more than 70 armed attacks were recorded, in which 15 soldiers were killed and several dozen wounded. Following is a diary of the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces attacks for the week of June 10-15.

### June 10 and 11

A bomb exploded near the village of Kufr Sil, south of Beirut, as an Israeli vehicle passed near it. The Israeli military spokesman who announced the incident said that there were no Israeli casualties.

An Israeli military spokesman stated that an Israeli position in Sidon was hit by two bazookas. He claimed there were no casualties.

A military position in the port of Tyre was attacked by a group of commandos. The clash lasted for about half-an-hour and Israeli helicopters were seen evacuating casualties. An Israeli military spokesman confirmed the incident, but claimed there were no casualties.

### June 12

Two Israeli soldiers were wounded when a remote controlled bomb exploded near their patrol.

A bomb went off as an Israeli supply convoy passed through southern Sidon, at around 3:00 pm. An Israeli military spokesman said there were no casualties.

A water tanker was fired on near the village of Amiq, close to the *de facto* Israeli-Syrian cease-fire lines.

Fire was directed at an Israeli position near Kamed al-Louz at 7:30 pm. The Israelis claimed there were no casualties.

### June 13

Two military vehicles were ambushed south of Nabatiya in the central southern region of Lebanon. Some reports said the attackers inflicted heavy casualties on the Israelis before withdrawing to base.

### June 14

A remote-controlled explosive charge was detonated as an occupation army convoy passed along a road three kilometers north of the Litani River. There were no reports of casualties.

Armed men in a Mercedes car fired several shots at the Israeli military police headquarters in Sidon. The Israeli military spokesman who announced the incident did not give any further details.

A Rocket Propelled Grenade knocked out a tank transporter at the southern entrance of Sidon, some reports said there were clashes afterwards. No further information ws available.

### June 15

Israel Radio reported that an Israeli position east of Kamed al-Louz came under fire. The radio said that fire was returned and that there were no casualties on the Israeli side.

## Ansar

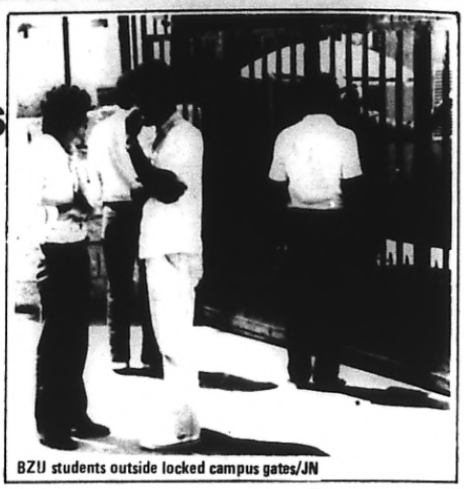
continued from page 1

Translation: From the local press.

More than 30 detainees held by Israel since June 1982 escaped from al-Ansar detention camp in South Lebanon, June 13, Lebanon TV reported.

*Al Ittihad* daily, the Arabic language organ of the Israeli Communist Party, reported that according to *Voice of Palestine* the prisoners were freed by a joint Palestinian-Lebanese commando unit. The report said the fighters cut through the fence surrounding al-Ansar after cutting the high tension electric lines, which supply the camp with power. The prisoners set tents afire to distract the guards, and then the 30 dispersed into the nearby woods.

Israeli helicopters and tanks combed the mountians surrounding the prison camp in search of the detainees. Lebanese residents who had been visiting the Galilee said, June 14, that they saw Israeli war planes straffing the mountain area, as if in pursuit of the escapees. They said they believe the prisoners could not have survived the intense fire. An Israeli military spokesman denied that any prisoners had escaped, and said that the only attempt to escape was aborted after a prisoner who tried to flee was killed by Israeli soldiers.



BZU students outside locked campus gates/JN

# Confrontation Averted at Bir Zeit University

Open confrontation between the Bir Zeit University board of trustees and the university's student, employee and faculty unions over the administration ordered closure of the school was narrowly averted, June 14, by a last minute compromise which allows students on campus but no classes.

The controversy within the university surfaced after the board of trustees took a unilateral decision, June 10, extending the closure of the university campus for two weeks until the semester final exams, thus ending the semester prematurely. The final exams date was set for June 20 and announced in the local papers. The board's decision followed one week of closure at the end of the violent clashes between nationalist students and Muslim fundamentalists on campus June 4. The one week closure was understood in the context of a tension easing period and to keep large numbers of students away from university campus.

Albert Aghazarian, public relations director at the university, explained to *Al Fajr* the reasons behind the board's decision. "The administration, which took the violent events very seriously, is in the process of making major changes at the university, including disciplinary measures. Thus it wanted the campus free of large numbers of students in order to be able to implement its decisions in a proper way."

*Al Fajr* has learnt from high level sources at the university that the administration received serious threats of retaliation in case it takes any action against the students involved in the illegal entry on the university campus.

The students union, along with the employee and teacher unions, rejected the administration's decision calling it 'overreaction.' They demanded that the university open its doors as usual. They also demanded that the board of trustees take the proper action and be ready to bear the responsibility. When the administration ignored the teachers' and students' demands, the latter decided to appear as usual at the university campus on June 15. Front-page announcements in the local papers, signed by the two unions, requested the students and teachers to appear on campus in order to resume studies.

Negotiations, however, continued between the two parties until late June 14. The board of trustees finally agreed to allow students to be present on campus starting June 16 but only to check with teachers regarding the final exams. The board did not agree to resume classes and compensate for time lost during the closure.

On the morning of June 15, university students and teachers were not allowed on campus. The crowd held a peaceful protest outside the university campus. They raised posters calling on the administration to open the university doors and to resume classes as usual. Protesters later dispersed and no trouble occurred despite the presence of students of both poles of the conflict. One concerned faculty member, opposed to the administration decision, commented, "I think that the administration's fears are not in place. University students including those of the Islamic bloc were present in the cafeteria after the June 4 clashes and no problems occurred." He stated that " an all-out power struggle with the university administration is unwise at this time."

An active member of the teachers' and employees' union told *Al Fajr* , "the shortsightedness of the university's administration is causing more problems rather than solving existing ones." The only way to bring about a solution to the present problem is by taking the proper action." A third-year student accused the university administration and board of trustees for being 'unscientific'. He said:" The administration must bear the students' interests in mind before taking any decision."

# RAMADAN: THE HOLIEST MONTH

The Muslim holy month Ramadan officially began, June 11 when, according to religious law, the supreme Islamic judge in Amman declared that a Muslim believer and two witnesses had sworn that they saw the new moon's crescent.

The 30-day month of fast and prayer during which all Muslim believers must abstain from cigarettes, food or drink from sunrise to sunset is the holiest month of the year. It culminates in the three-day Id al-Fitr breaking-of-the-fast feast.

The tradition of fasting is one of the five pillars of Islam along with conviction in the oneness of God, belief in Muhammad as a prophet, prayer, and giving alms to the poor.

The month of Ramadan brings all restaurants and cafes to a virtual halt during daylight hours. The streets are busier, however, later in the evening than the rest of the year as people stroll till late hours. Many people stay up till the *sahur* between 1:00-3:00 am for their last meal before the following day's fast.

Certain parts of the West Bank carry out strict controls to enforce the fast. Jordanian law still prevailing in the West Bank (despite many amendments) permits the civil courts to fine and imprison Muslims who violate the fast. Cases of people brought to trial have been reported in years past in the northern and southern parts of the West Bank.

# Military Restricts Dhahriyeh Water

Water supplies to the 15,000 population town of Dhahriyeh have been restricted by the West Bank military governorate water department for the past two weeks. After administrative incompetence by an appointed village committee, residents from the village complained to *Al Fajr*, June 14. The resident, who declined to be identified by name, said that the water shut-off came because of unpaid water bills.

Describing the situation to *Al Fajr*, one resident said that water in the village is now "very scarce", and very few residents have water wells, which they could use in such emergency situations. Those who do have water wells are sharing, rather than selling. Many residents, however, are compelled to use tankers to ship in water from outside. The residents say that the longer the water shut-off continues, the more incapable they become of coping with the situation.

The water crisis began at the Israeli authorities insistence that the village council pay the JD 14,000 they owe to the water department to cover the past four months. The village council contacted the Israeli authorities, last week, and agreed with them to divide the payment up over several months. In effect, the council paid IS 270,000 (nearly JD 2,200) as a down payment. The authorities, however, seem to have changed their minds, and are demanding more money. Employees at the water department office in Beit El declined to talk to *Al Fajr*, saying that they "are barred from giving any information to the press."

The village council says that they have been unable to pay the water bill because the consumers are refusing to pay. One member of the council, who refused to give his name, was unable to give the name of any resident who did not pay his water bill, however, saying he "did not have his files."

A well-informed resident, and an opponent of the Israeli-appointed village council, who also did not want his name published, told *Al Fajr* that the village council is "incompetent, and unable to keep any of the projects running." The resident explained that the village council's only source of revenue is from water fees. The council, it seems, has been covering its expenses from the money collected in water fees. Over a four-month period, the water bill grew into this record.

Replying to the council's claim that the residents have not paid their bills, the source said that it is the duty of the village council to collect the fees, and to shut off the water supply to anybody who refrains from paying.

Abd al-Sami' Abu Khalaf, who is in charge of the water department at the Hebron municipality, said they offered to increase their water supplies to the village by installing a large pipe. He added that in meetings between village council representatives, the acting mayor of Hebron offered to install the pipes.

They, however, were required to pay a small contribution into the project. The village council refused. Abu Khalaf told *Al Fajr* that the municipality has installed a new water pump, capable of pumping enough water nto the entire southern region.

Dhahriyeh is also living through a power shut-down, which has been in effect for more than eight months. One resident told *Al Fajr* that three village generators were turned off by the local committee, which is responsible for the project and which is also incapable of keeping it running properly.

Dhahriyeh was twice placed under curfew this year, where it remained restricted for more than one month. Ali Yassin al-Makharzeh, the nationalist head of the village council, was ousted nearly one year ago, after he was accused of "assisting Palestinian commandos."

# Dheisheh Suffers Virtual Blockade

Dheisheh residents are living in a situation similar to a "ghetto," as one Israeli journalist described it, after the authorities closed off the last entrance to the camp and barred it with reinforced concrete.

As a result of the residents' suffering, tens of residents complained – especially store owners whose businesses have been shut as a result of the closing of the main entrance. Twenty stores and a gas station have been forbidden to reopen and threatened with a military court trial.

On June 14, a delegation representing the camp residents sent a complaint to the legal advisor of the West Bank's military government. The residents' letter requested the legal advisor to do all he can to have the barrier which was placed on the camp's main entrance removed.

The complaint, which was signed by members of the camp of various occupations, stated, "We the undersigned, residents of the Dheisheh Palestinian refugee camp, located near Bethlehem on the main Jerusalem-Hebron road, appeal to the legal advisor in the West Bank's military headquarters concerning our collective complaint which has resulted due to the dangerous harassment caused to all the residents of the camp as a result of the closure of the main road leading to our camp using reinforced concrete, which was carried out by the Bethlehem area military authorities Thursday evening, June 2."

The complaint also requested that all the other barriers placed on the camp's various accessory roads also be removed.

At the same time the number of residents from Dheisheh camp arrested by the Israeli authorities is increasing every day. The imprisoned residents are being detained at the Fara'a detention camp near Jenin.

On June 13 Muhammad Atrash, head of the Dheishen camp's social club, was released on bail after a five-day detention and awaits trial on the charge of "possession of illegal books." He was arrested after his house was raided.

Also released was Naser Abu Ajamiyeh, Imad Abd al-Fattah, Jamal Atiyeh, and Adnan al-Atrash. Meanwhile, the authorities continue to detain Najib Farraj, who completed a one year prison term in Tulkarm prison, nearly one month ago. Military authorities also put Burhan Atallah, a student at Bethlehem University, in detention.

The military authorities have also renewed the town restriction on Naser Atiyeh, member of the Polytechnic student council in Hebron. He is to be confined to the limits of the camp for six months. (Translation: Al Mithaq, June 15)

# FOREIGN CURRENCY LEVY REPORTS DENIED

Recent reports about the possibility of implementing a levy on foreign currency exchanges in the West Bank and Gaza (including Jerusalem) have been denied by a high level source in the Israeli Knesset. The reports had been causing concern in occupied territories' financial circles.

Ms. Smadar Hannie, economic advisor to the Knesset's finance committee, told *Al Fajr* that "during the finance committee's latest session, one member questioned what the present control procedure in the West Bank and including West Jerusalem was, but no decision or recommendations were taken in this regard."

Israeli newspapers widely circulated a news item that the finance committee had planned to place restrictions on Arab money changers including a levy on foreign exchange. The news worried Palestinian money changers, merchants and the general public who carry out most of their business dealings in either Jordanian dinars or US dollars. The average Palestinian carries only a small amount of Israeli money due to the rapid depreciation of the Israeli shekel.

Samir Abdo, a Jerusalem money changer, told *Al Fajr*, "Rents, salaries, cars, furniture, land and even clothes purchases and sales are conducted in hard currency."

Money changers who were licensed before 1967 by the Jordanian authorities have continued to operate despite an Israeli law prohibiting the exchange of currency outside banks.

All West Bank exchangers contacted by *Al Fajr* explained that they are officially licensed and pay Value Added Tax. Jerusalem merchants said that in addition they pay income tax. There are hundreds of money changers in the West Bank and Gaza who are reputed to have a daily turnover of hundreds of thousands of Jordanian dinars. Most merchants deal with their local banks as well.

# Israelis Step Up Anti War Efforts

– We are protesting not out of pacifism, not out of weakness, and not out of fear from "there is an option" war. But out of pain and sorry over false war.

When Israeli official casualty figures hit 500 dead on June 11, the Peace Now movement and other anti-war groups and individuals redoubled their efforts to get the army out of Lebanon.

A 90-minute licensed protest was organised by Peace Now after movement leaders received dozens of telephone calls on Friday afternoon after the news of the death of three soldiers reached the street, urging immediate action.

The 100 protesters who gathered at the permanent symbolic demonstration site, close to Menachem Begin's official residence, were the Committee Against the War in Lebanon (CAWL), Parents Against Silence and There is a Limit (*Yesh Gvul*).

The protesters, carrying placards calling for the immediate withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon, were swelled by many passers-by, as an expression of solidarity. *Al Hamishmar* Hebrew daily reported that sympathy with the protest was "different from previous protests." In the past, violent attacks against anti-establishment demonstrators have been the norm.

Tzali Reshef, spokesman for Peace Now, addressed the crowd shortly before the end of the protest, and said that a majority of the public support the call for immediate withdrawal from Lebanon. He added, "It seems the government is deaf," and does not hear the people's call for an immediate pull-out.

At the same time, a group of young Israelis, who completed their military service, continued picketing across from Begin's house, where they keep an updated record of the number of Israeli fatalities in Lebanon.

Lev Greenberg, member of *Yesh Gvul*, an organisation of reserve soldiers who are against military service in Lebanon, said, "This (the war in Lebanon) is the beginning of the end of the occupation of the West Bank." Greenberg also said the number 500 is a symbol to the continuing casualty toll inflicted as the result of the continued presence in Lebanon.

One member of the group who is picketing Begin's house later told *Al Fajr*, "This war is for the benefit of Begin and (former Defence Minister Ariel) Sharon, and it failed." In a leaflet they distribute, they call for "unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon, the use of the Israeli army for defence only, and avoiding clashes with Syria."

LAWYER TERMED 'MEAN'

# Occupation Official Targets Jenin Lawyer

Israeli military occupation advisor for Arab affairs in the Jenin area asked his superior for the permission to "kick the ass of an Arab lawyer because he is mean from the first degree." This was revealed last week by Nazareth lawyer Walid Fahoum, who is representing the Jenin lawyer. In a complaint sent to the West Bank's military occupation's legal advisor, Walid Fahoum, representing Jenin lawyer Yousef Aridi, said:

"Advocate Yousef Aridi went to the military headquarters compound in Jenin on May 26, in reply to a summons. After he arrived, he was informed by 'Mr Moshe,' the Arab affairs advisor to the 'civil administration,' that the request he had received was erroneous. The Israeli officer asked to accompany Arridi to the gate, but Yousef Aridi declined the officer's offer, preferring to leave unaccompanied. It seems that this refusal angered 'Mr Moshe', who sent a memorandum to his superior asking to be given a green light to summons Yousef Aridi and, "kick his ass because he is mean."

"By mistake, it seems, this request was sent to Yousef Aridi himself on May 26."

At the end of the complaint to the legal advisor, Walid Fahoum requested an investigation to be initiated into this matter. (Translation: Al Ittihad, June 14)

# Peace Now Activists Speak in Um al-Fahm

The Abna' al-Balad (Sons of the Country) movement held a lecture in Um al-Fahm, June 11, about the role, struggle and duties of the peace forces in the Israeli society at the present time.

Uri Barbash, a film director, and Beni Barbash, a writer and journalist, both activists in the Peace Now movement spoke to a crowded Hamra cinema audience about the forces for peace in Israel. Uri Barbash outlined to the 300 local residents the history of Peace Now and its most important activities. He explained that Peace Now is a popular protest movement but that it has no political platform. Barbash said that the immediate responsibility of Peace Now is to struggle against the Israeli war policy towards the Palestinian and Lebanese people and the immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon.

The second duty, according to Barbash, is bringing to a halt the confiscation of West Bank land and the establishment of settlements there as well as the struggle against the annexation of the West Bank to Israel. He said it was the first time that he had talked to an audience in an Arab village.

In reply to a question on the position of Peace Now towards the PLO, Barbash answered that Palestinians have a right to choose their own representative and "if they choose the PLO it is their right."

Uri Barbash, is presently preparing a film on the situation of prisoners in Israeli prisons concentrating on relations between political and criminal prisoners.

Hassan Jabarin, the official spokesman of Abna' al-Balad, and Khalil Jabarin also spoke at the meeting. Hassan Jabarin emphasised that the presence of Peace Now in the village marked the implementation of the decision of the latest Abna' al-Balad conference to develop relations with progressive,democratic Jewish movements and individuals opposed to the heart or aspects of the Zionist policies and its daily manifestation.

Jabarin continued that there is a "dialectical relationship between the Palestinian resistance in Lebanon and the escalation of anti-war movements in the Israeli society." He added that Abna' al Balad will have to work at deepening and widening the rift inside the Israeli society, noting that "we will work with every individual, committee, or organisation, even for one day, if that is for the interest of our national cause.

Khalil Jabarin called on Peace Now to join the Palestinians in Israel in their struggle for their national and democratic rights, and "to stand by us against racist laws and the policies of land expropriation."

# DHEISHEH JOURNALIST TOWN ARRESTED

"Israeli authorities summoned Hamdi Farraj, managing editor of *Al Shira'* bimonthly magazine, June 13, and put him under town arrest for six months. The order which was put into effect at the beginning of June restricts Farraj to the limits of Dheisheh camp. He was instructed to sign his name with the Bethlehem police once a week.

"The restriction order brought immediate condemnation from the public and from fellow journalists who called for it to be rescinded." (Translation Al Mithaq, June 15)

## Court Order Stalls Beduin Eviction

The Israeli High Court issued an interim order, June 9, prohibiting the eviction of nearly 300 Beduin families of the Dholam tribe from the Tal al-Maleh area, in the Naqab. The order was issued on request from 100 of the families, who received notices two days earlier to evacuate their villages within five days. The court restraining order is effective until a final decision is reached.

## Roads Impassable

NABLUS – Several access roads to suburbs in the heights of Nablus have now become impassable, residents said today.

The roads, one of which leads to the Samaritan quarter, have become virtual potholes, making vehicular traffic hazardous, if not impossible.

Residents claim that some of these have become open sewers, increasing the risk of contamination and the spread of disease. They are asking for immediate steps to remedy the situation.

## Hebron Economy

HEBRON – The economy of this large West Bank town is on the skids. Residents complain that the prices of basic commodities have shot up recently, causing severe hardship to families with limited incomes.

The continued devaluation of the Israeli shekel vis-a-vis the Jordanian dinar (which is still legal tender in the West Bank) is also contributing heavily to the town's woes. Most rents in the West Bank are paid in hard currency, with the Jordanian dinar the favourite.

Tenants therefore have to keep paying higher and higher rents each month.

## CENSORSHIP THIS WEEK

Followir laid a breakdown of censorship cuts for issue 163, June 17, 1983:

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of original articles submitted to censor | 23 |
| Number of articles totally censored out | 10 |
| Number of articles mutilated beyond use | 1 |
| Number of articles partially censored but used | 1 |
| Number of articles passed | 11 |

The Dawn

**ALFAJR**

Jerusalem Palestinian Weekly

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**FOR REASONS BEYONED OUR CONTROL, OUR EDITORIAL DOES NOT APPEAR THIS WEEK.**

RICHARD ARENS SPEAKS OUT

# Israel is Violating Lebanese Law, International Law and Human Rights

by Ghassan Bishara
Our Washington DC Correspondent

At a press conference called by the Arab Anti-discrimination Committee (ADC) in Washington, June 9, Richard Arens, brother of the Israeli defence minister, spoke out strongly against Israeli policies in the Middle East and especially the violation of Palestinians' human rights. Arens, a professor of law at the University of Bridgeport, Conneticut, and a prominent human rights activist, expressed utmost concern for Palestinian and Lebanese prisoners being held at al-Ansar camp in South Lebanon. He said that Israel is in violation of the Geneva Convention on the treatment of prisoners and criticised the fact that Israel has not made public the names of the prisoners, allowing neither legal nor medical visits. The prisoners, he said, are being held incommunicado. He also said that Israel is violating Lebanese law by detaining Lebanese citizens as well and accused the Israeli authorities of systematic torture, as documented by Amnesty International. Arens made specific reference to Palestinian prisoner Samih al Yousef, and Lebanese prisoner Ghassan Zeidan. Al Yousef, he said, was detained by Israel and accused of attempting to bomb a train in West Germany. No explosives were placed anywhere and no crime was ever committed. Yet, he said, the Israeli government has been holding Samih for about a year now.

Even if Samih did commit the act he is accused of in Germany, who appointed Israel to be the police of the world, he asked. Israel, Arens said, claims that it has secret information upon which it has been holding Samih and many others. He said that Nazis also conducted trials based on what they argued was secret information. It is high time, Arens said, that Israel performs according to human decency, as it is high time the US government informs Israel that such violations of human rights will no longer be tolerated, and that the US will use its leverage against Israel if the latter doesn't adhere to internationally accepted behaviour. Arens accused Israel of violating international postal regulations when it refused delivery of letters to attorney Lea Tsemel by intercepting mail addressed to her.

Arens said that his disagreement with his brother, the former Israeli ambassador to Washington before taking over the defence portfolio, goes back to the days when Israel began to sell arms to Latin American dictatorships such as those of Uruguay where American Indians were slaughtered, and to Somoza before he was overthrown by the Sandinista opposition. He said that he approached his brother who at the time was head of the parliament defence and foreign affairs committee about these weapons and that his brother shrugged these issues off. Arens said that he never saw his brother Moshe while he served as ambassador in Washington. Professor Arens visited Israel following 1973 and following 1967, and believes that Israel should exist but only within the pre-'67 boundaries, according to United Nations resolution 242. The Palestinian people, he said, have the right to a state just like any other people, and that state is to be established on the West Bank and Gaza.

Asked if his outspokeness won't embarass his brother Moshe, Richard Arens said he feels embarassed by his brother's stand. The defence minister of Israel, his brother said, is even right of (Israeli Prime Minister Menachem) Begin politically and even disapproved of the Israeli-Egyptian treaty. Asked by *Al Fajr* about what he intends to do on behalf of al-Ansar prisoners, Arens said he will initiate a campaign within the US Congress to try and bring the issue to its members.

Arens is a specialist in international human rights law. He was active in the '60s on civil rights issues, particularly in Alabama and Florida. He published a book on genocide in Paraguay in 1966 based on personal studies of the indigenous Indian population there. He spoke on the same subject to the UN subcommittee on the protection of minorities in 1977 and was observer on the country for Survival International for whom he also published a report which was carried in the *Congressional Record* in 1978.

Attending the ADC press conference with Arens were brothers of Samih al- Yousef and Ghassan Zeidan. Both promised to continue to defend their brothers until they, and all other Palestinian and Lebanese prisoners are released.

In an article on the conference in *The Washington Post*, Carla Hall quoted Arens as saying, "For years I thought he (Moshe) was a lost cause," adding, "he must have regarded me as a lost cause." *The Post* says that Arens is so "disillusioned with Israel that he has renounced his religion," refusing to "accept a religion that adopts, as a control symbol, a state."

"There is evidence of the Israelis trying to manipulate a superpower confrontation," Arens told the ADC press conference. "The atomic arms race is already on in full swing in the Middle East.

'The Israelis' motivation in getting the Russians out, I suppose, relates to their ability to engage in further territorial advances under a protective umbrella furnished by the United States," he said.

When the Israelis knocked out the Syrians' Soviet-built SAM missiles in the Beqa'a valley last year, Arens continued, Moshe Arens, then-Israeli ambassador to the United States, boasted that the Russians had been given a "bloody nose."

"How much are they (the Soviets) expected to swallow before they strike back?' Richard Arens asked. "And if they do strike back, to what extent are we (the United States) expected to follow the Israelis?"

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# OPINION

**Al Fajr invites our readers to submit letters, opinions and articles. Contributions must be signed, but names can be withheld upon request.**

## The Truth About the Israeli-Lebanese Agreement

There are two conspicuous facts about the Israeli-Lebanese agreement;

a. The agreement, in its open parts stands in contrast to UN decisions nos 508 and 509, which demand unconditional Israeli withdrawal, Israel being the occupying country, in order to reach an agreement that will put an end to the tensions.

The fact that Lebanon signed the agreement after the Americans exerted heavy pressures, sending Secretary of State Shultz, and while the Marines are in actual control of Beirut on one hand and while the Israeli army is occupying some 40 percent of the Lebanese territory and entrenching there, indicate how sovereign and free that government was when it signed the agreement.

This point was emphasised by Dr Hachaturov, a member of a Soviet delegation which visited the country in mid-May: "It is impossible to carry on peace negotiations with an occupying country. Is it conceivable that we would have carried out negotiations with Hitler when the German army was standing at the gates of Moscow?" he asked.

A government that started functioning in such a manner will not be able to become more than a puppet. The history of the 20th century was not favourable to such governments.

b. Whereas the agreement speaks of the withdrawal of the Syrian, Palestinian and Israeli forces, it was not signed between them. Instead of Syria and the Palestinians being part of an agreement about the future of Lebanon, what happened was that the Americans and the Israelis agreed on the withdrawal of the Syrian and the Palestinian forces. In this way, the agreement turned into an ultimatum directed against (Syrian President Hafez al-) Assad and (PLO Chairman Yasir) Arafat. In order to emphasise its nature. Shultz left the area demonstratively and left Syria to (Special Envoy Philip) Habib's care.

In no way does the agreement assure Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. It is conditioned by Syrian and Palestinian withdrawal. The real meaning of this ultimatum was made quite clear by (Israeli Defence Minister Moshe) Arens: "A 'possibility' that the Syrians would not withdraw was considered. In this case, a confrontation with them is possible, even a war. But Israel will be stationed then in the present deployment of forces, which is inconvenient.' He then goes on to explain why a retreat to the Awali river line would be better for waging a war against Syria. (*Davar*, May 10).

As expected, the main points in the agreement are secret. 'Understandings' reached in writing between Israel and the US remain uncovered lending the agreement its real content. These 'understandings' touch mainly what is called "Israeli right to self-defence. Whoever witnessed the Lebanon war knows the real meaning of these innocent words, and how Israel uses them as a whip against the Palestinian people the Arab nation, and a cover for destroying, occupying and expanding.

From this right, explains Y. Harif (*Ma'ariv*, May 13) "follow all options, according to the decisions of the Israeli government, in case order is violated."

In the name of these interests, Israel demands that Lebanon recognise the international border between the two states, respect it, and see to it that it is respected, while at the same time demanding a security belt on Lebanese soil, where all traces of Lebanese sovereignty disappear. It acquires the following rights:

1. To prevent Lebanon from sending into its territory forces of a state that has no diplomatic relations with Israel. This includes the majority of the Arab states, the socialist states, and Asian and African states. In short, a meaningful component of the international community of nations. This means a *de facto* cancellation of Lebanon's membership in the Arab League.

2. Imposing on Lebanon to cancel laws that were legislated by it that stand in contrast to the agreement, including the Cairo agreements that recognised the PLO's status in South Lebanon, the presence of the Syrian army, and more. This item abolishes the legitimacy of Syrian presence in Lebanon, while at the same time legitimising Israeli presence in Lebanon, if the Syrians refuse to accept the American-Israeli ultimatum.

3. To conduct combined patrols with the Lebanese army in the security belt, one of its units being composed of Israeli ally Saad Haddad and his people. In case Israel is not satisfied with the developments, the agreement allows it to operate militarily inside Lebanon, including the type of preventive operations that have ruined Lebanon for eight years, and reached their climax with the war. In this matter too an Israeli-American 'understanding' was reached.

4. Arab sources claim that a secret clause in the agreement forbids all Palestinian activity in Lebanon including cultural and economic activity.

5. The UN which was responsible until now for areas in the south, will be limited, according to the agreements to the Palestinian refugee camps only.

Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens sums up the real Israeli plans in the making of the agreement as the following:

'We shall have full control in South Lebanon, including common patrols with the Lebanese army on a daily basis. The Israeli army will feel the pulse of everything that goes on in South Lebanon. We shall know in the right and appropriate time about hostile organising in the area, and will be able to act against it and prevent it before it is carried out." (*Davar*, May 14)

This is not the first 'peace treaty' that Israel has signed with an Arab country. Before, Israel signed a treaty with Egypt, also after heavy American pressure. As everyone knows, that agreement did not pave the way to peace, didn't solve the difficult problems that have weighed on the area for 35 years. On the contrary, it paved the way for the annexation of Jerusalem, the Golan Heights, and the Lebanon war. The agreement with Lebanon, although it falls short of a full peace treaty, promises to be even worse. (Translation Derech Hanitzotz)

## PREACHING ECOLOGY

by Thoma Shick

**Below, two commentaries by contributor Thoma Shick. The first follows excerpts from an article by Eli Cohen entitled 'Avoiding the Change in Tel Malhatha Landing Routes Would Harden Life for Arab Inhabitants' published in *Haaretz* (May 2 1983) Shick's second commentary concerns the use of trained attack dogs by occupation authorities to break up demonstrations.**

'Non-implementation of the recommendations of a survey to change the direction of the Tel al Malah airfield construction by 15 degrees, might make the lives of Arab inhabitants unbearable because of the excessive noise that the planes would cause," said Professor Hillel Shuval, chairperson of the Israeli Society for Ecology, in a conversation with a *Haaretz* correspondent, at the end of the International Conference on Ecology, last week in Hebrew University.

"Shuval called the government to establish without delay a super-ministry for environmental welfare. "The state is in an ongoing development push that is taking place on the account of the nature and environment preservation powers. In future we will be a small and densely populated state and development will cause, against our wishes, a grave loss in ecology. This should be avoided now," emphasised the scientist. (abbreviated) In the conference 50 scientists from 14 countries participated. Among the research papers presented was one about improvement of the burning of diesel oil, in order to lessen or abolish the damage caused to the citrus groves by the Ashdod Electric Plant."

Tel al-Malah is the area in the Naqab from where ... people of the Beduin tribes were evacuated disrupting them from their ecological environment without providing them with reasonable and fair alternatives that would fit in with their traditions, customs, culture and aspirations. The Beduin were prepared to come to terms with the authorities by asking for replacement of their pure ecological agriculture based on rain-water cultivation in wadis with similar modern and sophisticated methods and forms of settlement like the kibbutzim and moshavim in the Naqab that are based on the national canal bringing water from the northern Sea of Galilee to the desert South for the Jewish population.

The government has been prepared to resettle the Beduin only in workers townships near Beer Sheba, to serve as industrial and agricultural labourers in Jewish enterprises and farms including those established on lands confiscated from Beduin. The confiscation process still takes place with the assistance of the notorious Green Patrols, a semi-governmental, semi-policing unit in connection with the Nature Preservation society and authorities. Where were Shuval and his Israeli Society for Ecology Law all that time before and since the Naqab was legislated to take from the Beduin even the right to appeal the cheap deals the government offers them? Is ecology likewise divisible?

* * *

On its daily morning Newsreel on Monday, May 30 (08:15) Israel army radio announced that Israeli police have converted a unit of watchdogs to riot-dogs, intended to disperse demonstrators, especially in the occupied territories. The project is based on the assumption that certain populations have a traditional fear of dogs which can be effectively exploited. The radio stated that Interior Minister Yosef Burg has nothing against it, but the Chief Police Inspector has doubts about the introduction of this policing method.

Unidentified sources were quoted in the item as having reservations about the use of dogs against demonstrators, "because of certain connotations" (with Nazis, apartheidists, South American regimes or any other colonialist regime? or is it copying democratic US rule and the usage of dogs against civil rights strugglers in the South?! listener's remark).

Since according to the facts revealed, training has already preceded the decision to introduce dogs to demonstrations there rises a question of whether their use will also precede the decision on their use. And, after all whose initiative is it, if the Chief Inspector himself has doubts about it?

## Journalists' Union Report Stirs Controversy

# THE PRESS UNDER OCCUPATION

by Awad Abdel Fattah

The issue of the situation of the press in the occupied territories could, just possibly, get sympathetic examination from the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) the world body representing western journalist unions. A debate on the press in the occupied territories started last year in the world congress of the IFJ, held in Lugan Switzerland when a detailed report outlining the conditions of the press and journalists in the occupied Palestinian territories was presented by Tunisian delegate Mokhtar Trifi. He had been instructed by the IFJ bureau to prepare the discussion document.

Trifi's report, presented in April 1982, drew an immediate interim response from thedelegation of the National Federation of Israeli Journalists present at Lugan. A considered response was presented last September by the NFIJ. Ironically but perhaps not surprisingly, Palestinian journalists in the occupied territories only heard about the debate when a sympathetic Scandinavian brought a copy of Trifi s material with him on a visit to the area.

Before talking about the Israeli repressive practices against the Palestinian press and journalists, Trifi raises the question of Israeli legislation. He writes: "The military government in the occupied Arab territories disposes of a whole area of repressive regulations which they mainly inherited from the British administration when it exercised its mandate on Palestine, in particular the 'defence rules'. (Emergency Defence Regulation 1945 ed.) which were promulgated in 1945 and completed in 1949 after the proclamation of the state of Israel...

"All these rules were applied to the Arab territories of the West Bank Gaza, Golan and Sinai shortly after their occupation in 1967."

Trifi cites Article 84 of the EDR 1945 as the main anti-press law: "It is not allowed to print or publish a newspaper, an advertisement, a poster, a magazine, a bulletin, a leaflet, or any other publication with a political content without a previous authorisation by the military governor.

"The latter holds total discretionary power for granting or refusing such authorisations. He is also entitled to censor anything he considers to be 'likely to interfere with state security and public interest'. He is entitled to prohibit the import and distribution of any journalistic product likely, according to his discretionary feelings, to present the risks mentioned above. He has also the right to force journalists, printers and publishers to present him, before publication, with anything they write, print or publish."

In connection to this subject, the military governor and his subordinates, according to the report, have the right to refuse, even in court, to disclose the reasons for their decisions. The occupying power uses these rules in order to "strangle the Arab press," the report comments.

Moving to censorship, the report divides it into two different stages; the first ranges from 1967 to 1972 and the second still prevails today. "From 1967 to 1972, censorship was supple as the military authorities established a list of prohibited subjects and another list of subjects which could be dealt with only with favourable advice on the part of the censors."

Regarding the second stage, the report said that after the publication of *Al Fajr* newspaper in 1972 censorship was made systematic. Two copies of all the material for publication in the newspapers had to be submitted before publication. It added, explaining the way the censor works, that he keeps one copy and returns the other one to the editorial staff of the newspaper with the "formal" visa, and that with the help of the first copy, the censor may check conformity to his orders. Also it says that the censor has the right to postpone his decision in order to refer to his superiors, and that he may simply prohibit the publication of one or several articles, totally or in part. Also according to the report, the censor uses various ways to delay publication of the newspaper, especially if the latter is known for its nationalist tendency.

Talking about the effects of these measures and how the editorial teams deal with them, since the censor gives his answer only late at night, the report says: 'In order to avoid remaining with blank spaces late at night after the censor's 'work', editorial teams have taken the habit of sending sufficient copy for the publication of two issues of the newspaper. Articles authorised by the censor and not used are kept in the drawers for whatever purpose they may serve.

"The editorial teams may resort to non-paying advertisments to fill the blank spaces left after the censors scissors went through them. They often (in the past) filled space by printing 'Please excuse us for not printing this article' or 'Please excuse us for the mutiliation of this article.' The military authorities repeatedly threatened to close any newspaper which published such phrases."

Limitations on distribution of the Palestinian newspapers, besides house arrest, arrest and deportation of journalists, are also referred to in the report with some details and examples.

The authorisation to publish a newspaper is not sufficient to guarantee distribution the report asserts. "The military government may, at its discretion, prohibit the distribution of a newspaper in one or several places or areas." It mentions some examples of banning distribution, such as the case of *Al Talia* which was banned in Gaza and the West Bank in 1978, and *Al Shaab* and *Al Fajr* which were suspended on June 1, 1980. The editors of the three newspapers mentioned above, the report notes, were put under house arrest in "order to prevent them from exercising their profession and, in this way, to disrupt the normal publication of their newspapers." The house arrest lasted about three years, ending only at the beginning of 1983, "in spite of numerous protests including that of the International Federation of Journalists.'

On the subject of the detention of journalists by the Israeli authorities, the report quotes *Agence France Presse*, Tuesday March 30, 1982, as saying: "Eighteen Palestinian journalists were arrested on Tuesday morning by the Israeli police, who entered the building of *Al Fajr* newspaper where the journalists arrested were slightly injured in a clash at the entrance of the building. The director of *Al Fajr*, Hanna Siniora, was among the detained journalists."

The agency quote explained that "journalists, working on the two dailies *Al Fajr* and *Al Shaab* who were on strike on Tuesday, intended to cover in procession the one kilometer to the building of *Al Shaab*, in protest against Israeli censorship imposed on them and against the present prohibition for both newspapers to be distributed in the occupied territories."

Needless to say, the Israeli journalists were not happy with Trifi's assessment. They immediately responded with a refutationof some points and five months later with a full answer. Unfortunately, after several attempts *Al Fajr* was unable to speak directly to the author of the NFIJ report to discuss inconsistancies in it. Calls were not returned.

The Israeli report drawn up without any contact being made with the Arab Journalists Association starts with a statement describing Israel as "the only democracy in the Middle East."

It says the "people of Israel Jews and non-Jews," enjoy individual rights. No reference is made to the occupied territories. The press defend "individual and community rights in Israel.'

Later it asserts 'Israeli journalists" fought against "all sorts of deviations that could obstruct civil rights. It points out that the NFIJ has waged an "all-out campaign" against attempts to obstruct press coverage in certain areas of 'the country" -- presumably a reference to problems faced by Israeli reporters in the occupied Golan Heights and Egyptian Sinai, during 1982.

The Israeli statement ends with a call for the IFJ to "bestow upon us an unshakeable trust and full confidence.' It then goes on to say the "Israeli Union wishes to call attention to many inaccuracies, gross distortions and mere fantasies." ... The Israeli report cut little ice with Arab journalists. Akram Hanniyeh, chairman of the AJA and editor of *Al Shaab*, expressed surprise that a report could be embarked upon without talking to Palestinian journalists and commented, "This is why the (Israeli) report is full of innaccuracies and lies. '

The body of the Israeli report is a selective commentary on points in Trifi's document most of it is left to stand.

The Israeli refutation starts with the assertion that the state of Israel complies with international law by applying the Emergency Defence Regulations (or the grounds that it "had been the law... in Jordan." "This," said one commentator, "is journalism at its best! He went on to point out that while the defence regulations were on the books during Jordanian times they were dead letter, having been superceded by Jordanian legislation. A lawyer pointed out to *Al Fajr* that shortly after the occupation, military regulation 224 was enacted which revitalised this legislation by determining that laws on the books be considered as in force.)

The Israelis then assert that all censorship decisions are appealable to the Supreme Court, and cites two examples when this was done. Ironically the second example is an appeal by a Jordanian to his government in 1952!

The NFIJ states that the censor may hold material for two or three hours before returning it "but not so long as to jeapordise publication of the paper." This is one point *Al Fajr* wished to take up with the Israelis. Editor Sam'an Khoury noted. 'Although our weekly material is held for 24 hours, there have been times when articles have been held for a week or more. Palestinian newspapers are then attacked by the NFIJ for their editorial policies. They deny arbitrary censorship exists, an issue which is presently the subject of litigation, and move on to house arrests.

Akram Hanniyeh, Bashir Barghouti and Ma'moun al-Sayyed are accused as National Guidance Committee members and thus "guiding and coordinating terrorist activity in the territories. ' This, says the NFIJ, is why they were town arrested, and not because of their journalistic activities. Akram Hanniyeh denied the assertion. He notes he was town arrested while the NGC was legal and that he and colleagues were refused access to their offices. He also pointed out that journalist Nabham Khreisheh of *Al Fajr* and Hanna Siniora, editor in chief of *Al Fajr* neither members of the NGC -- were also restricted.

continued on page 13

# THE GAME TO GET SETTLERS

# BLURRING THE GREEN LINE

by Nura Sus

Like a Latin *bola* the Israeli government is swinging back with momentum from its political war on Lebanon to reap expected political gains on the West Bank and Gaza the *causus belli* of the June 1982 invasion. Trying to capitalise on what it hopes is a humbled Palestinian population, Israel is making big projections for a sizeable transfer of Israeli Jews into occupied territory. But whether it can present an attractive enough package of give-aways and cheap housing to entice the average middle class Israeli past West Bank stone-throwers – among other problems – is in serious doubt, even by settlement enthusiasts.

**Chief of Staff Moshe Levy putting up fence around Kiryat Arba:** *Israeli government efforts to attract settlers are intensifying.*

### THE PUSH

From May 10-16 several Israeli ministries and settlement organisations launched what they innocuously entitled a 'Campaign for Inhabiting the Settlements of Judea Samaria and Gaza." The push to sign up settlers for the West Bank and Gaza Strip was jointly sponsored by three ministries and several quasi-governmental organisations: the ministries of agriculture, science and development, and housing and welfare, along with the Zionist Organisation's settlement division, the Center for Direction to Development Towns and Settlements, the settlers' own autonomy council and settlement movements from almost every Israeli political party.

Under these auspices a tightly controlled process for sorting out 'desirables' ran throughout the week in Ramat-Gan a Tel Aviv suburb. There and in other settlement sign-up centres throughout the country, Israelis who never before had reason to venture into the occupied Palestinian territories, were bombarded with fancy brochures and construction company sales pitches about the wonderfully good, government-subsidised life to be had on settlements, euphemistically now called community villages.

### THE PROCESS

(1) Although settlement is 'open for everybody" you must fill in an application (including questions: *Did you perform military service? If no, why not?)* according to ministry of housing regulations. It is the stipulation – not by law but by 'regulation' – that settlement residents must have served in the Israeli army or be full-time yeshiva students – that makes settlements exclusively Jewish.

(2) Wait for interview. Detailed description of the settlement is only given during an interview and then only information about a specific settlement. If you 'pass' the interview...

(3) Pay IS200 at the post office for a settlement tour; no children permitted.

neither a kibbutz nor an agricultural moshav, the *community village* is "intended to answer vital national needs." These village collectives are small colonies of up to 300 families with a Jewish Agency-subsidised mixed economy *in situ*. Projected sources of employment are industry, handicraft, agriculture, grazing and tourism. The goal is to "spread Jewish population in wide areas, in regions which cannot be established merely by agriculture and production." The advertising is explicit: in their words, to guard national soil, to absorb *aliya* (immigrants), and to create a society with high-minded values of responsibility and cooperation. These planned communities are "open for the whole of Israel," reads the government brochure, without discrimination according to age, education, health situation or marital status.

Community settlements are established on a similar basis; the difference is that growth is planned to reach 500 families or more.

Israeli newspaper reports of the success of the campaign indicate that more interest was generated about the city-settlements within easy access of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem jobs but also 90 percent of the 3500 applicants during one week signed up for Gaza settlements – a reflection of investment buying in a 'relatively' safe area.

### SUPER-HYPE

With the age-old advertising lure of rumoured demand creating real demand the May campaign warns that the "immediate number of absorption places is limited," but also brings the soothing news that if there are no places now there will be in the future. "Absorption," or

The following is excerpted from an Israeli government press office statement dated June 1, 1983.

**Deputy Agriculture Minister Michael Dekel today defended the activities of private contracting firms selling land in the West Bank and asserted that, contrary to press reports, there have been no improprieties in this activity. Answering a motion to the agenda on the issue made by MK Yehuda Tzur (Alignment) Mr Dekel said, 'we want to settle Judea, Samaria and the Gaza district with as many Jews and possible in the shortest time... It is our right and duty to involve private enterprise in Judea and Samaria and everywhere in the state of Israel."**

Tours were available to the larger settlements: Katif in Gaza, the Hebron mountains, Kiryat Arba and Efrat outside of Hebron, the Jerusalem bedroom settlements of Givat Zeev and Maale Adumim, Nablus district (Tel Aviv commuter) settlements of Ariel Maale Efraim and Har Bracha and two tours each in Ramallah and Jenin vicinities.

(4) Each settlement has its own admissions committee to ensure that "absorption is cautious and gradual" and requires one year of candidacy in the settlement.

### GLORIFIED SUBURBS

This year's campaign introduces a new kind of settlement in its advertising: billed as colonisation, is promised within 18 months. New settlers can live in temporary housing until they are formally approved after their year's candidacy. Then with generous aid from the Israeli ministry of housing, they can purchase ready houses, or cottages as they are called, or flats with much-sought gardens, or join a build-your-own-home scheme.

Everyone has their own figures but according to the Jewish Agency settlement department, by the end of 1982 6000 settler housing units were occupied and another 5000 were under construction. Total Israeli population, after seventeen years of settlement in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, is 22,000 (Central Bereau of Statistics) – an investment of almost US $1 000,000 per settler man, woman and child. Since the war in Lebanon the figure has risen to 30,000 according to maximum estimates. For a government facing a spiraling inflation rate of 160 percent, it sounds like a bad investment. But, with settlement infrastructure now in place, the Israeli government is trying to secure its investment by attracting a new wave of non-zealot settlers into its 80 West Bank posts.

### BLURRED MAP LINES

In all settlement advertising and literature, there is no mention of occupied territories. There is no 'green line' separating the West Bank from the pre-1967 borders of Israel.

In the expanded Jerusalem municipality, most of which is territory occupied in the 1967 war and annexed a few weeks later there are now over 50 000 settlers in seven modern high-rise settlements who are not considered in government statistics on the West Bank and often overlooked by Palestinian demographers as well.

There are no political, philosophical or legal questions to answer. The lines on the map blur: Palestinian villages, even towns, if marked at all, are in fine print, roads detour major cities such as Nablus and Ramallah. It is all one country ready to house you, with nothing more complicated to think about than the design of one's house, the length of the commute to jobs in Jerusalem or Tel Aviv, and housing loan repayments. The decision to live in a West Bank settlement is no longer a political one but merely one of financial expediency. A newspaper advertisement by the ministry of housing detailing costs "throughout the country" included 'Judea and Samaria' in its informational report. Tens of private government and Histadrut construction companies are there to help get one out of a crowded Patah Tikva or Tel Aviv flat.

Like Gridi Construction – 30 offices. For the sum of IS1950 monthly, its brochure boasts, you can "establish the house of your dreams" on a 400 square-metre privately owned plot. Rascoe Company, the largest and oldest Israeli building company, has been in the settlement business in Palestine since the early 1930's. It sells garden flats in the West Bank for US $70,000 and 5-6 room cottages for US $90,000 on 140 square-metres. In Ariel settlement near Tulkarm, a build-your-own house bedroom community for Tel Aviv, Rascoe offers "detached housing for the cost of a 3-4 room flat in a shared house. Prices are one-third less than the cost of a similar house inside the 'green line.'

### COUNTING SHEKELS

Deputy Agriculture Minister Michael Dekel, also in charge of the Department for the Construction of Villages and New Settlements told the Knesset in October 1982 that every family transferred to the West Bank receives US $120-150 000 in direct government aid – or 4-6 times the loans made available to families in 'development towns' which are in Israel 'proper.

As added incentive, aid is boosted 45 percent in Israeli development towns to keep up with inflation, but raised 65 percent for West Bank settlers. Even within the West Bank, government aid to settlers is highest in the least "attractive" areas: the Jenin area, south of Hebron, and the highlands east of the Ramallah-Jerusalem road.

The Israeli government's preoccupation with settlements, and failure to attract settlers in spite of vast expenditures on their behalf, can be seen more clearly when juxtaposed with other similar government housing efforts. The Peace Now movement, a liberal coalition which objects to settlements in the occupied territories as political provocation, recently published a pamphlet detailing settlement costs. In 1982 Israel spent US$200,000,000 on settlements (this excludes private funds and secret ministry of defence expenditures which could double this figure). Comparatively, in a three-year period from 1979-81 it spent only half this amount for neighbourhood rehabilitation in all of Israel 'proper.' Since 1967 Israel has spent US $200 billion on settlements and only US$1 billion for rehabilitating existing neighbourhoods in Israel's crowded cities. Peace Now is using statistics like these to try to broaden its base of those who object to settlements. (Peace Now however discriminates among settlements which it objects to: for example, the private enterprise of Nofim near Ramallah is not called a settlement by Peace Now, nor is Ariel, probably the most popular settlement outside of the Jerusalem area. Peace Now is concentrating its protests on Gush Emunim settlements such as Bracha, overlooking Nablus.)

Those who do not object to such lop-sided government priorities, are liable to join the advantaged group.

According to Peace Now, the Israeli government is telling the Israeli people that, since the war in Lebanon, Palestinians have shown a "readiness to sell soil." Over 30,000 dunums, they say, have been 'purchased' since the war through November 1982 (almost without exception through collaborators, by forgery or fraud).

### LAND FOR THE TAKING?

In a series of articles in *The Jerusalem Post* early this year, Yosef Goell reiterated the Israeli government's belief that "the settlement picture has changed." He attributes the change to the "shattering of the PLO in Lebanon with its spin-off effect on the status of the PLO in the territories and the categorical rejection of the Reagan plan by the Begin government." He reports that Arab land sellers are "falling over themselves to unload rocky hilltops' which Israelis are becoming increasingly selective about buying. One year ago the justice ministry undertook "meticulous" research which sieved registered Palestinian land from community unregistered land claiming the latter as "state' property and ripe for settlement. Unfortunately for the Israeli private investors the best agricultural land, and the best situated residential real estate was, in fact, land for which its Palestinian owners held court-recognised documents.

What has changed since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon is the growing collusion of settlers, military authorities and collaborators, mostly Village League members, who have become experts in defrauding West Bank Palestinians of their land. In the villages of Bil'in, Bidya, Beit Illu, Azoun, Kobar, Surif, Sa'ir, Jinsafout, Deir Istia – to name a few – landowners have found private Israeli construction companies suddenly bulldozing their cultivated land, and claiming ownership. Violence has often ensured, with armed settlers firing on unarmed villagers.

In some cases the settlers themselves, hungry for villas at cheap "dream" prices, have also been defrauded by get-rich-quick development companies. Caught in embarassing legal tangles, the Israeli government warned Israelis against buying into non-government approved settlement projects like Nofim and announced last month it would shortly issue guidelines to protect would-be settlers from losing their shirts in risky land deals. At the same time settlement minister Dekel denied there was any risk to Israelis from buying West Bank land.

It is the greed and need of Israelis that the settlement drive hopes to capitalise on.

### MECURIAL GROWTH?

Growth for 1983 is planned at 20,000 new settlers – or a doubling of the settler population – and an expansion through 1984 with 20 new settlements. Dekel says 12 000 residents (settlers) have already been approved, most of them are destined for the urban, bedroom communities serving Jerusalem (Givat Zeev, Maale Adumim) and Tel Aviv (Ariel) but the figure is widely doubted. The number may represent investors rather than actual apartment dwellers.

Although so far the rate of present settlement does not warrant such optimism, the housing ministry projects a settler population of 100 000 by 1987 and half a million by 2010. Other than the Jerusalem and Tel Aviv large "suburban' settlements, the *fait accompli* settlement policy elsewhere in the West Bank remains dots of small colonies, with little economic infrastructure to attract more Israelis farther across the 'green line'. Still 42 more settlements are planned to complement the already existing or nascent 107 in the West Bank (according to *The Jerusalem Post)* and 14 in Gaza. The settlers may remain just names on paper, however.

Below, excerpts from a brochure put out by the World Zionist Organisation to promote 'Operation 1000', part of an intensive effort to attract Jewish settlers to West Bank settlements.

**Zvia and Menachem Zwebner live in Kiryat Arba. They came on *aliya* from Brooklyn six years ago. Zvia is a teacher and Menachem a silver recovery technician.**

*"This is where we belong, our only real home. People in the States mistakenly believe that we live behind barbed wire. However, it is here that we and our children go wherever we please in complete freedom. We have this sense of belonging here as we walk on the site of King David's first kingdom."*

**Chaim Milun, is a builder in the new town of Efrat. Chaim came on *aliya* with a group of 25 families from South Africa five years ago. He now has his own construction management company.**

*"As far as I'm concerned I am building my future and my children's future here. This is where I want to bring them up as proud Jews – and as a bonus, you can't beat the quality of life we get here... just look around you."*

**Sari Ever and David Levine came from the US six years ago, and settled in Kedumim. David was a lecturer in the theory of education administration. His hobby jewelry making, soon took more and more of his time, and today Sari and David work as team employing 12 people.**

*"To our surprise, our jewelry caught on, and today we sell to the finest stores in the world. This is an open country for new business. People in the industry helped us start and today I sit on the board of directors of the Israel Jewelers Export Institute."*

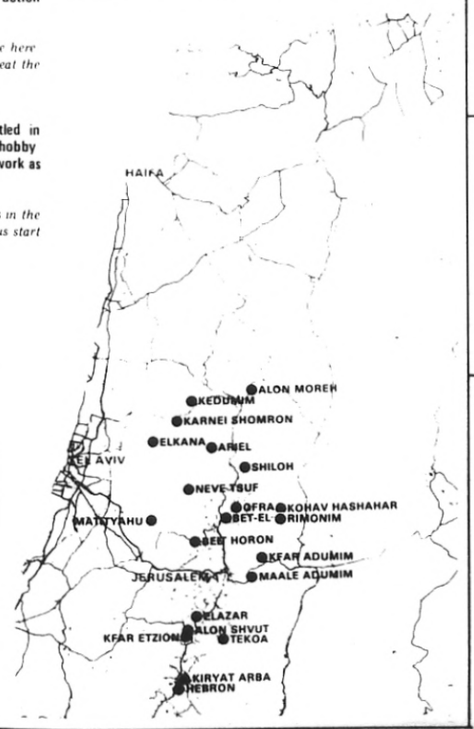
Department for the "Study, Work and Discover" Program in Judea and Samaria

OPERATION "1000"

laid

# Operation "1000"

## SUMMER 1983 IN ISRAEL





**The Turning Point: Right now, you can have a cottage in Ramot (Jerusalem).**

YUVAL GAD Ltd.
יובל גד בע"מ
The turning point — something new

**Newspaper add:** *The construction companies are there to help.*


**Israeli Housing Ministry Settlement Goals by 2010**

| Settlement | Dunums | Housing Units | Population |
|---|---|---|---|
| Maale Adumim | 13,717 | 10,000 | 40 000 |
| Ariel | 29 500 | 25 000 | 150,000 |
| Emmanuel | 4,000 | 5,000 | 20,000 |
| Karnei Shomron | 2,206 | 5 365 | 30,000 |
| Kiryat Arba | 512 | 6 000 | 25,000 |
| Givon | 1300 | 1900 | 30,000 |
| Efrat | 238 | 6 000 | 25,000 |
| Total | 52,053 | 59 265 | 320,000 |

# BOOKS BANNED IN THE WEST BANK

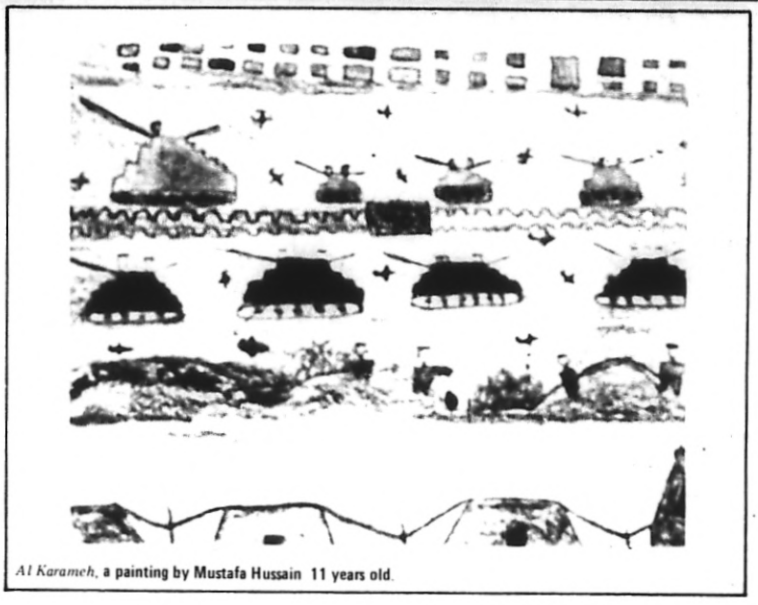
*Al Fajr* continues the list of books banned in the West Bank by the Israeli military authorities as published for the first time in cumulative forms by the Israeli Defence Forces, September 20, 1982, under the title *Decrees, Orders and Stipulations: Order Regarding Hostile Propaganda.* The order is dated January 8, 1977 and is issued by Yehoshua Bar David, censor, who writes in the introduction: "Based on the authority granted to me in accordance with Article No. 88 (A) from Defence Regulations (State of Emeregency) 1945 and Article 8 regarding the prohibition of works of hostile propaganda (Judea and Samaria) No 101 for the year 1967 and as I believe that the order is necessary for purposes of security and public order, I hereby issue the following order... It is prohibited to import or print or distribute the publications listed below this order. All orders regarding publications which were issued before the date of this order are repealed. The effective date of this order is January 26, 1976."

| Title | Author | Place of Publication Publisher |
|---|---|---|
| The Known Secret - The Principles of Nixon and Kissinger in Asia | Virginia Brodin | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Arab Retardation and Arab Liberation | Mohammad Hafez Yacoub | Beirut Dar Ibn Rushd |
| Islam and the Opposing Powers | Najib Kilani | Beirut Dar al-Risala |
| Fragrance and Compassion of Contemporary Poetry of Arab Women | Rose Ghasi | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| The Poet's Argument and the Revolution | Nazih Abu Nidal | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Who Stole the Fire? | Ihsan Abbas | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| The Living Martyr Abd al-Qader Husseini | Nabil Khalid Agha | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Arabism Between Isolation and Unity | Sallum Sarkis | Beirut Dar al-Mutawassit |
| The Short Story in Palestine and Jordan | Hashem Yaghy | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Hertzl - The First Objective Study | Desmond Stewart | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Studies in Israeli Strategy | Mahmoud Azmi | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Israeli Intelligence | Nizar Ammar | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Names of Places, Sites, Natural Landmarks, Human Areas and Geographically Identifiable Places in Palestine up to 1948 | Costatine Khammar | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Marriages | Mahmoud Darwish | Beirut Dar al-Awdeh |
| The Story of the Palestinian Child | Ahmad Dahbour | Beirut Dar al-Awdeh |
| Olive Leaves | Ahmad Darwish | Beirut Dar al-Awdeh |
| That is Her Picture and This is the | | |
| Suicide of the Lover | Mahmoud Darwish | Beirut Dar al-Awdeh |
| A Lover From Palestine | Mahmoud Darwish | Beirut Dar al-Awdeh |
| Complete Works of Zubeiri | Mohammad M Zubeiri | Beirut Dar al-Awdeh |
| Birds Are Dying in the Galilee | Mahmoud Darwish | Beirut Dar al-Awdeh |
| Party Membership Application | Samih al-Qasem | Beirut Dar al Awdeh |
| General Education in Arab Countries | Mohammad Mursy | Beirut Alam al-Kateb |
| Madam Harb | Afnan Qasem | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Jerusalem - The Key to War and Peace In the Middle East | Abd al-Munem Subhi | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Techniques in Zionist Cinema | Bughalib Buriki | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Studies and Palestinian Claims | Bughalib Buriki | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| The Palestinian Case in Arabic Cinema | Yousef Yousef | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Nablus Goes to the Sea | Ali Khalili | Beirut Dar al-Awdeh |
| Baisan in the Dust | Khaled Abu Khaled | Beirut Dar al Awdeh |
| The Children of Palestine | Walid Seif | Beirut Dar al-Awdeh |
| When the Lamps Are Burnt | Hassan Abdullah al-Quroshi | Beirut Dar al-Awdeh |
| The Fence and the Gallows | Abdo Othman | Beirut Dar al-Awdeh |
| In The Carriage | Mohammad Abdo Ghanem | Beirut Dar al-Awdeh |
| Dreams of the Shepherd | Elias Farhat | Beirut Dar al-Ilm lilmilayin |
| Quneitra is Returned | Adnan al-Malouhi | Beirut Dar Ihya al-Ulum |
| Arab Rule Over the Gulf of Aqaba and The Straits of Tiran | Saleh Dabbagh | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Confession of the Age of Disappointment | Ghali Shukri | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| The First Front | Abd al-Latif al Lu'abi | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Looking at the Israeli-Arab Conflict | Hamed Rabi | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| The Palestinian Resistance and the Forests' Battles | Mohammad Sabri Katamto | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| The Military Dimension of the Arab-Israeli Conflict | Lo'ai Jibril Bitar | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| The Complete Works of Badawi al-Jabal | | |
| Security Fears of Arab International Life | Ahmad Shuqeir | Beirut Dar al-Awdeh |
| The Poetic Movement in Occupied Palestine | Saleh Abu Usba laid | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Vibrations | Haydar Haydar | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Legitimisation of the Middle East Conflict | I M Brimakoff | Beirut Dar Ibn Khaldoun |
| A Trip in the Darkness in Search of the Light | Aref al-Aref | Beirut Dar al-Farabi |
| The Complete Poetic Works | Muin Bseiso | Beirut Dar al-Awdeh |
| The Palestinian Poetry in the Palestinian Disaster | Abd al-Rahman Kayali | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Contemporary Tragedies and Arab Destiny | Sullum Sarkis | Beirut Dar al Awdeh |
| War in the Land of Peace | Hassan Badri | Beirut The Arab Organisation for Studies and Publications |
| Mohammad and the Children of Israel | Mustafa Kamal | Cairo The Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs |

# IN TIME OF WAR: CHILDREN TESTIFY

**From the Palestinian children to all the children in the world**

*When the planes came*
*the world became an assassin*
*roses and the leaves of trees fell*
*tears rolled from the eyes of the poor*
*people fell. . .*
*The children lost their homes*
*the world collapsed*
*and God and all authority*



*Al Karameh*, a painting by Mustafa Hussain 11 years old.

These drawings and interveiws have been excerpted from a book published more than 10 years ago which compiled drawings of Palestinian children. The book is entitled *In Time of War: Children Tesity* and is edited by Mona Saudi. The drawings were collected from Palestinian children aged 5 to 14 years in Baqa'a refugee camp, Jordan, between September 1968 and June 1969 eighteen months to two years after their families fled their homes in the West Bank during the June 1967 war.

The children depicted in their drawings the tragic experiences and the suffering in their daily lives, either in their homeland or as exiles, in camps and villages.

* Their drawings reflect the miserableness of life in the refugee camps, the wet cold winter and the heat of summer;

* reveal their experiences as children bombarded by airplanes and expelled from their homes;

* condemn the unjustified violence and aggression practiced against their parents, brothers, sisters, neighbours and their fellow people.

* The loss of the homeland does not obliterate their haunting memories of their original homes, gardens and trees, in spite of the barren world of their new and unaccepted camp.

* The warplane is the first enemy of the Palestinian children. In their drawings, the Palestinian children portray the warplane as the primary source of destruction. It does not kill only schoolmates, parents, sisters and brothers, but it also kills flowers, hens and goats.

* Every Palestinian child dreams in the future to be *fedayi* because the *fedayi*, they say, is able to liberate the lost homeland.

**Tawfik Jamal. 6 years old**

"The Israeli soldiers entered our home. They aimed their guns at us. Then they fired a shot over our heads and said to us: 'Get out.'

"We were living in a shack. We left but couldn't cross the river; the bridge had collapsed. My cousin came and carried us across to the other side. Mother was nearly swept away by the river. The planes were flying above us like demons; the noise was deafening.

"My father is ill. He gives me a piastre every day. We eat twice a day; potatoes, tomatoes, and bread. We drink tea.

"When I grow older I am going to become a *fedayi* and fight to return to my homeland. Otherwise we will never get it back."

I asked Tawfik: "Can the *fedayeen* alone liberate Palestine?" "No . . .", he said, "the *fedayeen* need more commandos and strength, for if one is killed or injured, another should replace him. All the people in the camp should become *fedayeen*."

**Zuhair Mahmoud, 6 years old**

He is an imaginative child. He draws, sings and speaks as though his mind could generate an endless flow of images. But then he suddenly retreats into a daydream. While drawing, he looks as though he is trying to press his small body into the paper.

He draws beasts, caves, corpses, *fedayeen*, roads, cars, and airplanes. . they are interlocked in one abstract form.

He said, explaining his drawing:

"This is a grave, and this dead man was buried yesterday. This road is taken by the bus and this is a *fedayeen* cave.

"When the Israeli planes came, we were at home. The window was blown up. My father dragged us out and we hid in the shelter. Then the house collapsed. I went in to get my shoes but didn't find them. We wandered aimlessly. We had no clothes with us. We had one bed but left it. We climbed mountains and hid in caves. The people were sad.

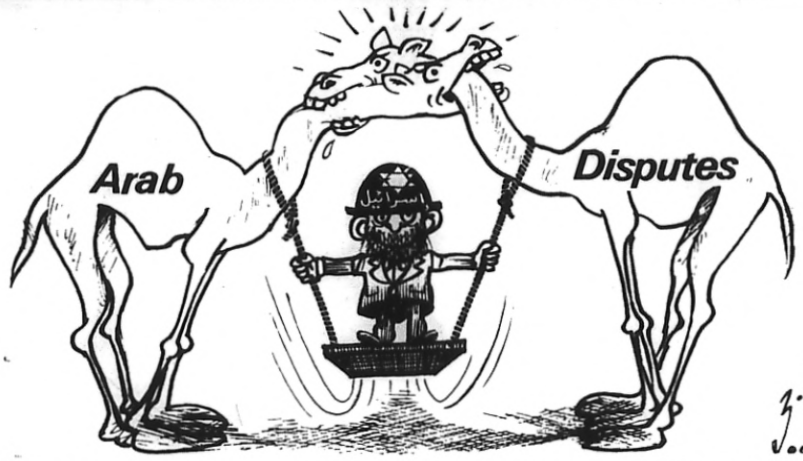
"A man came and told us, There is a beast up there on the mountain top.' My mother carried my little sister while my father carried me and my brother. . . the beast kept running after us.

"It was a big black beast. . . a *fedayi* came and fired a shot at it. It ran away."

"I took my mother's hand, and the planes followed us and threw bombs. . ."

by Rasmieh Tawfik, 9 years old.

# WINDOW ON THE ARAB PRESS




The prisoners revolt in Ansar camp in South Lebanon which led to the shooting death of one prisoner and the freeing of 30 prisoners, was one of the highlights of this week's reports in the Palestinian press in the occupied territories

The travels of PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat to Arab and Asian countries as well as his meetings with PLO and Fatah leaders were also prominent.

Continued attacks on Israeli troops in Lebanon and the latest POW negotiations rounded up the stories of the week.

## Impasse In Lebanon

Israel is sitting on a powder-keg in Lebanon and it might go off any minute now.

This is despite an ostensibly renewed round of diplomatic initiatives to resolve the Lebanese question.

On the surface, there are indications that a fresh breeze is blowing in the area, raising hopes of a possible solution to the impasse.

But in reality, the problem remains as unsolvable as ever. Israel refuses to withdraw either unilaterally or in stages, yet at the same time the Lebanese parliament is bent on ratifying the Israeli-Lebanon peace accord. The US, meanwhile, brings pressure to apply on Syria to join the peace process. The other side of the coin shows us a firm determination by Syria and the Palestinians to dig in their positions.

All this leads us to believe that an explosion is imminent it's only a matter of time.

AL SHAAB
June 9

## Begin's Depression

"Prime Minister Begin is suffering from acute depression. His morale is at an all-time low."

This was one of the leading articles bannered across the front pages of Israeli newspapers yesterday.

Begin's depression could not match the sorrow of bereaved parents or wives who have lost their sons or husbands in Israel's Lebanese misadventure.

We recall how things were different a year ago, when a triumphant Begin stood on the battlements of the captured Beaufort castle in Lebanon. The morale of Begin and his kindred spirits was at its apogee then, despite the deaths of thousands of Jews and Arabs. Even the massacres at Sabra and Shatila failed to ripple their cool.

Despite the accelerated pace of events in the area, things seem to have gone awry: Israel has brought ruin and destruction upon itself.

The United States dragged it into a costly war, and the United States is now trying to exploit Israel's presence in Lebanon to the limit. But it is Israel which is paying the price.

We have a "historic opportunity" to resolve our endemic problems here. But a word of warning to the misguided: don't for one moment believe that you can hope for a miracle, or that you can solve the Middle East riddle with one lightning strike (a *blitzkrieg*) against Syria.

AL ITTIHAD
June 10

## A Ship Without A Rudder

Arab politics are characterised by a strong element of unpredictability and a noticeable lack of organisation.

There was a time when Libya (labelled "extremist" by some and "progressive" by others) and Saudi Arabia (some call it "moderate" others "backward") would not even speak to each other. Only yesterday, it seemed, they were at loggerheads — today we find the leaders of both nations bosom pals, the metamorphosis so sudden and unexpected, it is incredible.

All is forgiven, let the dead past bury its dead.

With such a directionless policy, it is no wonder the Arab world today finds itself in such a fragmented mess. And if the rudderless ship of the Arab nation continues to "wander where it listeth," at the whim of the wind, then we can justifiably expect this people to remain forever divided against itself.

Only last month, Libya and Saudi Arabia traded insults and accusations. Only weeks ago, Saudi rulers were calling Libya's strongman a lunatic.

What happened suddenly? Did the two countries see the light? Has there been a cataclysmic upheaval in their way of thinking?

Nothing of the sort. Arab leaders, we have to admit it, seem guided in their domestic and foreign policies by a streak of irrationality. Isn't it time the curtain was drawn down on this farce?

AL QUDS
June 11

## A Campaign of Lies

The Israeli government has launched a malicious campaign of misinformation, claiming it has decided to expand the territorial limits of several Galilee Arab villages and townships, by including within their jurisdiction thousands of dunums of Arab land previously expropriated.

The truth is that just a paltry fraction of the tens of thousands of dunums, expropriated by Israel is being returned. What about the 180,000 dunums the government wants to annex to the Misgav (regional council)? Is it going to back down from that decision?

The government's ingenious campaign of lies will not fool anyone. The lands it has plundered belong to the Galilee to Sakhnin, to Arrabeh, to Deir Hanna, to Rama, to Deir al-Assad, to Majd al-Kurum. Giving it all back to the Arabs is no privilege, no charity — it is a restitution of our rights.

It is our land we want it back.

AL ITTIHAD
June 14

## Crippling Exams

We fail to see the so-called benefits accruing to our students if they sit for the "comprehensive examination", as stipulated by the Jordanian education authorities. And we believe our students are justified in refusing to sit for it.

Their claim in Jordan that the examination is conceived as an "equating" factor is totally unrealistic. In Jordan, they may need this sort of sifting and straining process, with their different educational set-up. Here, in the West Bank, we see no use for such a dubious device.

In fact, here it is seen as a devious plot to upgrade the passing mark and make it beyond the reach of most students — this, coupled with newly announced warnings inhibiting the search for employment by West Bank graduates, can only cause our students and job-seekers further agony.

laid

The "comprehensive examination" will cripple the educational process here — it must be rejected out of hand, because it is a threat to us all.

AL FAJR
June 14

## Reagan Proposal II

It looks like US President Reagan has thought up another proposal to solve the Middle East crisis. "Reagan Proposal II" purports to satisfy some Palestinian demands, while ensuring Israel's security in the long-term.

The United States is apparently bent on transforming the area into one vast launching pad with its doomed trial balloons or aborted space rockets: some of its proposals are far out, indeed.

But no matter how many proposals Reagan dreams up, they are all variations on the same theme: a determination to relegate the Palestinian question to the rubbish bin.

It is clear the US administration suffers from a total incapacity to appreciate the latest developments in the area. All its efforts at finding an equitable solution, in the American sense, are therefore fated to die while being born.

All the US is interested in is extending its hegemony in the area — but then it will have to reckon with the Soviet Union.

The US may be able to exploit 90 percent of the crisis 90 percent of the time, but it cannot exploit all of the crisis all of the time.

AL FAJR
June 15

# Golan Residents Sceptical of Elections

Syrian residents living in occupied Golan Heights are sceptical of local participation in local council elections which Israel has scheduled for October.

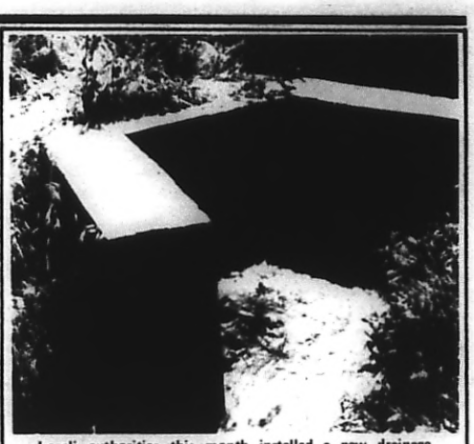
Abdallah Kish a prominent leader of the Syrian residents who was detained during the five month long general strike last year, told *Al Fajr* that although no decision has been reached on the matter, the general concensus is negative.

The Boqatha national figure informed *Al Fajr* that since annexing the area in late 1981, the Israeli authorities have been pressuring the population to accept Israeli citizenship. "All teachers were informed that if they didn't apply for citizenship they would be considered dismissed from their jobs. Kish explaned, however, that "all teachers are solid in their opposition to the Israeli blackmail." Kish also explained that religious and social ostracising against any resident who applies for the Israeli citizenship is strictly enforced.

*The Jerusalem Post*, the Israeli English language daily, reported June 10, that "Israeli supporters on the Golan have asked the Israeli interior minister to call off the local elections because they would result in the election of pro-Syrians instead of the present pro-Israeli individuals who were appointed by the military government. *The Post* continued that interior ministry officials are confident that "Israeli democracy will know how to handle such a situation."

In other Golan-related news, Golan dignitaries criticised the recently released statement of the UN human rights special committee to investigate Israeli violations in the occupied territories. The committee's statement confirmed that forcing the local population to accept an Israeli curriculum and to study Hebrew is a violation of their rights. Abdallah Kish explained that the Golanis have complained about such oppression since occupation. "We are sorry it has taken international groups 16 years to investigate and take a stand on human rights violations here."

As to the recent statements by Israeli opposition leaders hinting of the possibility of a deal involving the return of the Golan to Syria as part of a peace deal, Kish told *Al Fajr* that it has been the residents' demand and hope ever since 1967 to be rejoined to their homeland. He said the Golan residents' hope is "much bigger than that but we have confidence in our national leadership and will abide with their decision in regard to us. Kish also made a statement on the support of Golan residents of their Druze coreligionists in Lebanon. "We support all the national demands of our brethren in Lebanon," he affirmed, "our support for them is because of their principled national stands."



Israeli authorities this month installed a new drainage culvert behind Ramallah prison. Raw sewage drains into private fields and down public roads in al-Bireh /JN


**ANERA**

**ANERA is a non-profit, charitable organisation assisting Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and in the refugee camps. In the belief that its humanitarian work will contribute to peace in the region, ANERA emphasises lasting projects in health, education and community development.**

**Tax-deductible contributions to ANERA or requests for information may be sent to:**

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# Yeshiva Students Disrupt 'Messiah'

A performance of Handel's '*Messiah*' in West Jerusalem's central auditorium was disrupted, June 9, by yeshiva students – apparently with the consent of Israel's chief rabbi.

Soon after the Utah Oratorio Society, presently visting the country, and the Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra began the performance of Handel's masterpiece in Binyanei Ha'uma 15 yeshiva students, apparently belonging to the Merkaz Harav yeshiva, who had bought tickets and were properly seated in the auditorium rushed down the aisles, leaped on stage and started shouting slogans. According to press reports, seven outbursts occurred during the performance. The police were called in and arrested the 15 yeshiva students.

*The Jerusalem Post* reported, June 12, that chief rabbi Avraham Shapiro had given the OK to protest at the 'Messiah' concert, but had demanded a "non-violent protest." According to *The Post* the students objected to it because "it was written by Handel to promote the growth of the church and contains many references to Jesus as the Messiah."

Other reasons were that the concert was held in Binyanei Ha'uma, which is owned by the Jewish Agency, and because it was sponsored by the Tourism Ministry.

Israeli tourism minister Avraham Sharir reportedly condemned the action calling it "a shamful act by a small number of extremists." He complained that despite the steps taken to limit the bad impression to the choir which the ministry had hoped would be goodwill ambassadors, "the damage was done."

The anti-Zionist Neturei Karta movement's spokesman Rabbi Moshe Hirsch told *Al Fajr*, "those who are concerned about protecting Jewish values should first start protesting the degredation of Jewish values by the false Jewish messiah of Zionism rather than attempt to have people of other beliefs conform to theirs."


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# Press Under Occupation

continued from page 7

According to the chairman of the Palestinian Journalists Association, the National Federation of Israeli Journalists refused discuss the subject of the town arrests when requested to by the Israeli liberal journalist Amnon Kapeliuk who was one of the few who 'wrote good articles about the subject.'

Arresting Palestinian newspapers reporters while doing their job is also other evidence presented by Akram to refute the allegations of the Israeli journalists. Hassan Abd al-Jawad an *Al Shaab* reporter, was arrested and brought to trial in 1980 for reporting on a sit-in at Abu Dis college. Talal Abu Afifa, *Al Fajr* reporter, was arrested in the same year in a demonstration organised by the families of the Palestinian prisoners in Nafha in protest of conditions there. Both were accused of incitment, "a charge used as an easy pretext for preventing Palestinian journalists from writing about local events," said Akram.

Akram went on to attack allegations included in the NFIJ provisional reply. He refuted the allegation that the journalist's demonstration on March 30, 1982 – called by Israel a violent march to the "Temple Mount" – was violent. He stressed that it was completely peaceful, that photographs exist record ing the march and the arrests, and that the arrest of 18 journalists, including the editor-in-chief of *Al Fajr*, was "part of the Israeli campaign against Palestinian journalists and press."

In connection to censorship Akram told *Al Fajr* that the Israeli journalists' allegation that censorship is imposed on both the Israeli and the Palestinian newspapers is a red herring. "A short look," he says, "at one morn ing s Israeli and Palestinian newspapers reveals the difference." He explained that many events that happen in the occupied territories such as demonstrations, clashes between local population, Israeli soldiers and settlers, as well as land confiscation, etc, either don't appear in the Palestinian newspapers or are translated from the Israeli newspapers, radio or TV. "It is ironic that we have not been able to publish news about events that have occured in al-Aqsa Mosque because of the censorship, although the scene of the events is not more than 500 metres from the paper s office."

Akram asserted that all in Trifi s report concerning censorship is true and added, "We are still suffering from the same restrictions today."

Calling *Al Shaab* and *Al Fajr* "organs" rather than newspapers, an old NFIJ point (an "organ" is defined in the dictionary as a "periodical," a periodical which appears daily is surely a newspaper), because they deal exclusively with Palestinian affairs, astonished the chairman of the AJA. "They of course mean that these newspapers are not neutral or 'objective,' I would say it would be ridiculous for somebody to expect us – who are oppressed – to be neutral and not take a position towards oppression and the deprivation of our legitimate rights."

The NFIJ has taken a "hostile attitude" towards the Palestinian journalists and newspapers, Hanniyeh says. It has not taken any solidarity action towards the restricted Palestinian press and journalists, except a small delegation of some liberal journalists who visited three editors on their own initiative late last year. "They have even," said Akram, "taken a major role in the incitement campaign organised by the authorities against us." He added that most of them have justified through articles and news analysis the measures taken against the newspapers. The latest occurred last week, when Yoman Hashav a alleged that sums of money from the PLO reached *Al Shaab* and *Al Fajr* recently.

Summing up the effects of all practices adopted by the Israelis against the Palestinian journalists, Akram, who is the editor of *Al Shaab*, said that besides the sharp drop in the journalistic level of the newspapers and the weakening of the paper's role in enriching the cultural and literary movement in the occupied territories, some kind of inner censor has been created in every Palestinian journalist. Namely, journalists have started to think of what can pass censorship and what cannot. "However," he concluded, "our press will continue to exist and we won't despair."

Another journalist on seeing the IFJ paper, said, "I never thought I'd see the day when any journalists' organisation (NFIJ) would produce a report without even a reference to the fact that censorship *per se* is an unacceptable restriction on professional journalists.'

# WEEKLY REVIEW

**June 8, 1983**

## PLO SPLIT OVER

NAZARETH — The Palestine Liberation Organisation has successfully resolved the difficulties it faced in the Lebanese Beqa'a recently without having to resort to violence. This was announced in a telephone call to Nazareth Mayor Tawfiq Zayyad from the deported ex-mayor of al-Bireh, Abd al-Jawad Saleh.

Saleh reportedly informed Zayyad that "the matter" had been blown completely out of proportion. He categorically denied reports that there had been dozens of casualties among mutinous Fatah ranks as the PLO leadership tried to quell the so-called revolt. He also refuted suggestions that there was any serious rift among Palestinian fighters and termed such reports "mere fabrications."

Ever since the first hints of a conflict, the PLO has been able to contain it, and all reports to the contrary are nothing more than "ham-handed attempts by our enemies to discredit us," said the ex-mayor. "We may take it for granted that the conflict has been truly laid to rest."

## LAND GRAB

HEBRON The Israeli military government announced the expropriation of 80 dunums of Arab land in Beit Ummar, the Hebron district. The onus is now on the landowners to prove their title through an Israeli court. They plan to appeal to have the order rescinded.

## NO HEALTH FOR WEST BANK

JERUSALEM The Israeli government turned down a proposal from the World Health Organisation to set up a permanent health centre in the West Bank. The WHO general assembly recommended the establishment of three centres in the West Bank and Gaza Strip at a meeting in April.

## WORKERS BUT NO WORK

BETHLEHEM Israeli border police are turning back droves of Arab workers at checkpoints on the edge of the city on the grounds that they are not in possession of valid work permits.

## NO BUDGETS INSIDE

NAZARETH The local councils of Tamrah and Ramah in the Galilee have complained that the district commissioner for the northern district has refused to approve their budgets for the coming year.

Tamrah council head, Abbas Hijazi, rejected the decision to pare down the village budget. He claimed a reduced budget would mean a severe cutback in vital services.

In Ramah, the local council said government allocations in the past two months were not linked to the cost of living index, and are therefore actually being eroded by inflation. It said the governor's office has made it a habit of paring annual budgets and of following a policy of curtailing development projects. "We are facing financial strangulation," council member Kamal Ghattas said, accusing the governor's office of discrimination.

**June 9, 1983**

## BEDUIN EVICTION OPPOSED

JERUSALEM Israel Communist Party Knesset member Tawfiq Toubi has tabled an urgent motion for discussion of the Israeli government's proposed plans to move Beduin tribes from their homes in Tel al-Milh, the Naqab.

Toubi told the Knesset that the government's ultimatum that they get out in the next few days implies that any member of a Beduin tribe who complies with it will eventually lose all rights to compensation.

Toubi urged the Knesset to hold an emergency session to debate his motion before the Beduin, some 290 families comprising nearly 3000 people, are forcibly evacuated.

## VANDALISM

JENIN Unidentified vandals set fire to a car owned by the regional medical officer of a village near Jenin. The car was a write-off. Police said another two vehicles were also extensively damaged. An investigation has been launched.

## PRISON CHIEF TO QUIT

JAFFA David Bree, the chief warden of Ramleh jail, intends to resign his post following criticism of his handling of the recent rebellion.

Israel's prison commissioner indirectly accused the warden and his assistants of mishandling the situation and ignored orders to use force.

## UNION UNITY TALKS

RAMALLAH Regional labour unions in Ramallah and al-Bireh held a meeting to determine ways of coordinating their activities. There is no unified central body in the West Bank to represent the interests of all Arab unions.

## KIDS CHARGED WITH FLAG OFFENCES

In Deir Hanna, the Galilee, police arrested three children on flag burning charges.

Police claimed the children, ranging in age from eight to 12, pulled down the Israeli flag from its pole in their school yard and set it on fire on the 35th anniversary of the establishment of the state of Israel.

## NOT US, SAY GAZA YOUTH

GAZA Gaza youth movements have vehemently protested against charges they participated actively in recent disturbances on the campus of the city's Islamic University.

Spokesmen for the youth movements, which are active in social work programmes, denounced the charges as "false and baseless."

"This is just a clumsy smear campaign against us," they said. "The purpose behind it is to sow dissention in the ranks of the Palestinian people," they added.

## LAND GRAB

HEBRON The Israeli military government plans to confiscate another hefty chunk of Arab land. Residents of al-Bourj, near Hebron, were told the government intends to expropriate all the hilly regions around their village.

They have been given a one month grace period to enable them to provide evidence of their title to a 7000 dunum tract of land.

**June 10, 1983**

## JORDAN MUSCLES IN

NABLUS The Jordanian government has announced a new series of measures directed against Palestinian residents of the West Bank, according to educational authorities here. The sources said West Bank students have been singled out for special treatment.

Jordanian authorities have decided to ban all West Bank Arabs born in 1958 or after from travelling abroad in search of employment via Jordan. No West Bank students will be allowed to enroll in any Jordanian universities or colleges.

The Jordanians, however, are studying the possibility of allowing West Bank students to remain in Jordan for up to a month in order to secure acceptances from foreign universities. But this possibility, the sources said, will apply only to students whose grades are in the top brackets.

## FACT-FINDING

RAMALLAH The select higher committee convened by the Supreme Islamic Council and entrusted with the onerous task of investigating recent campus disturbances at Bir Zeit, held its first meeting here. The fact-finding mission discussed the plan of operations it will adopt in arriving at the truth behind the unprecedentedly violent clashes at BZU that left dozens of students injurd and extensive property damage.

The committee urged all concerned to exercise utmost self-restraint in order to facilitate its mission.

## TOWN ARREST RENEWED

Israeli military authorities renewed for the fifth time the six-month town arrest order on unionist Mahmoud Ziadeh, member of the Public Institutions Workers Union in Hebron.

Ziadeh must report daily to Hebron military headquarters to register his name. For the last three years he had to sign his name only once a week at the police station in the centre of town.

## PHONES IN

NABLUS The Israeli officer in charge of communications has now begun up-grading the city's telephone system and will be installing a new exchange that can accommodate 10,000 subscribers. Ministry sources said they expect the exchange to become operational within a month or two.

In Hebron, on the other hand, the gremlins continue to plague telephone lines. According to official sources, the city's automatic exchange has been disrupted in the wake of the heavy rains last winter, and efforts are being made to correct the faults.

## EDUCATION SWAP AROUND

HEBRON — Hebron's director of education, Dr. Adnan Salah, has been f laid into retirement, at the bequest of the Israeli military authorities, after refusing to attend a Village League party. He will be replaced by Mohammad Rashed Ja'abari, his predecessor in that post who also quit after clashes with the League.


جامعة بيرزيت

## بيان للرأي العام

ان جامعة بير زيت منذ ان بدات صغيرة قد نذرت نفسها ان تكون لفائدة الشعب الفلسطيني بأسره • وقد اخذت على نفسها في ممارسة شئونها وتسيير اعمالها ـ ان ترعى المبادىء الاتيـــة وتصونها :

البعد عن التعصب ، احترام وتشجيع حرية الفكر والتعبير ، اشاعة الروح الديمقراطية والحوار المفتوح ، تاكيدوتنمية نهج الموضوعية والعلمية • كما استندت الى فلسفة تربوية ووطنيـــةراسخة تسعى الى اتاحة فرص الدراسة والقيام بالبعث العلمي وتنميـــة روح العمل الجماعي بين الطلبة والاهتمام بالقيم الاخلاقية والحضارة العربيـــةوالاسلامية

وتاسف الجامعة ان تكون صرحـــا لاحداث معزنة وان تتعرض ويتعـرض القائمون عليها بشتى الاتهامات التي لاتشير الى ادنى قدر من العقيقة • وازاء هذا الحدث الخطير وما ينطوي عليه من استهانة بحرية الجامعة واهمية الحفاظ على شخصيتها المستقلة والتي تعبـــر بصدق عـــن الشخصية الفلسطينية الصامدة في وجه الاحتلال نؤكد ما يلي :

١ ـ ان جذور الصراع الذي اندلع على ارض الجامعة هي جذور سياسية ولا يمكن ان ينطلي على احد الزعم بانه صراع طائفي او يمت الى الدين باي صلة

٢ ـ ان توجه الجامعة هو توجه وطني، واذ تعرض الجامعة على حرية الفكر العقيدة فانها لا تقبل ان تصبح ميدانا للاستفزاز والعنف بل انها تستنكـــر بشدة مبدأ العنف وتدين كل من يلجا اليـــه

٣ ـ للجامعة قوانينها وانظمتها المقررة وهي ملتزمة باحترامها وتطبيقهـــا بامانة وموضوعية

واخيرا فان الجامعة تقدر جهود جميع الذين سعوا ويسعون لمساندتها تحقيقا للهدف المشترك وحرصا على المصلحـــة العامة وتعتبر مواصلة هذه الجهـــود دليلا اضافيا على التاييد الواسع والثقة العميقة التي قد حازت عليهما وهمـــا الركيزة الراسخة والمستمرة للجامعة •


**RAMALLAH, June 11 — Bir Zeit University took out front page ads to stress that the recent disturbances on campus were politically motivated, "and no one can claim that (the violence) had anything to do with religious considerations." The unversity's outlook is nationalistic, and it has always guaranteed freedom of thought and belief, but it refuses to become a battlefield and categuarically denounces violence, the ad said.**

**June 11, 1983**

## MOMS SPEAK

TEL AVIV — A peaceful Israeli organisation called "Mothers Against Silence" distributed leaflets in the streets in Tel Aviv calling on the Israeli government to bring home Israeli soldiers now in Lebanon.

## GET WELL QUICK

SHUFAT — A car accident on the Ramallah-Jerusalem road resulted in injury to Suleiman Mansour, a prominent Palestinian artist and *Al Fajr* English cartoonist. Mansour was transferred to a Jerusalem hospital where he underwent surgery on his knee cap.

*Al Fajr* staff wishes Suleiman a quick recovery.

## CAMP CURFEWED

NABLUS — Israeli military authorities placed a curfew on the Balata refugee camp outside Nablus. Israel Radio reported that the curfew was placed after camp residents stoned passing Israeli vehicles.

## FRANCE STABLE

REINE — Elan Halevi, the French Jewish writer and journalist and current director of the PLO's information office in Paris, called upon France to take a more independent stand from the United States in regards to the Palestinian problem. He asked that France use all its weight

with its European counterparts to interfere in international bodies.

Halevi, who has been assigned by the PLO a number of responsibilities in the UN, said in a press conference arranged by the Arab-French Solidarity conference in Reine (west of Paris) that as far as Palestinians are concerned France's position is stable.

### SLIPPERY SETTLEMENT

Israeli police said that an unidentified, dangerous substance was poured on the intersection between the Nabi Samuel settlement up to Maale Adiumim settlement on the Jerusalem-Jericho road. This substance, police said, made travel on the road dangerous.

## June 12, 1983

### SETTLER CHARGED

JERUSALEM — A Jewish settler has been charged with the homicide of a 13 year old Arab youth, during a recent demonstration at the Palestinian refugee camp of Balata, near Nablus. Police said the settler was driving a garbage truck when he got caught up in the demonstration. Camp residents pelted him with stones, but the settler ignored the advice of the police to detour. Instead, he stopped his truck, picked up his Uzi sub-machine gun and sprayed the demonstrators with bullets. One of the bullets stuck a 13 year old youth, killing him.

### SETTLERS GO NORTH

JERUSALEM — Hundreds of Jewish families have begun heeding the call to go north and populate the Golan Heights, annexed from Syria last year. According to local press reports, prospective settlers have signed up to live in new Jewish settlements in the Golan, despite news of extensive Syrian military movements there. The Israeli media has spearheaded the call to Jewish families, and the response has been described as overwhelming. The Golan settlements committee is expected to approve only a fraction of the applications submitted so far. Some of those selected will join existing kibbutzim.

### TORTURE TRIAL

JERUSALEM — Moshe Biton, the Israeli police officer accused of torturing an Arab prisoner during interrogation, will face trial soon, it was announced here. The officer is charged with using undue force against Walid 'Ardah, from Arrabeh, during the latter's incarceration in Fara'a jail. Israeli legal sources say the decison to prosecute Biton was based on the recommendation of a special committee, formed recently, on the proper handling of Israeli policemen suspected or accused of mistreating Arab prisoners.

### STONING

JERUSALEM — Israeli vehicles driving the Jerusalem-Ramallah highway came under a hail of stones by refugee youth as they passed Kalandia refugee camp. The military spokesman said no injuries were reported and no vehicles were damaged.

### CENSUS FRAUD

JERUSALEM — The third Israeli census of housing and population is expected to prove abortive in the Arab sector, according to the census officials, because of the failure to include a provision for stating the respondent's nationality on the census form. Census officials insisted upon such a provision, but their request was turned down on technical grounds. Also, there were not enough Arabic forms to go around; therefore the census has not attained its goal of covering the whole country, they said.

## June 13, 1983

### TRAVELLER'S PLEA

JERICHO — West Bank Arab residents of Palestinian refugee camps have appealed to the Israeli military authorities for permission to travel to Jordan.

The residents of Balata, Askar and Ain Beit al-Ma', in Nablus, are urging the government to rescind its order restricting their movement, in force since the beginning of May. They complain that the restrictions are causing them undue hardship.

On the other hand, travellers arriving from Amman report that the Israeli authorities have turned back from the Jordan bridges several Arab visitors from Jordan.

The Israelis are refusing to allow these summer visitors to cross the bridges, because they are not in possession of the required documents, they said.

### EDUCATION SHOWDOWN

NABLUS — Jordanian educational authorities have reiterated that they have no intention of scrapping the "comprehensive examination" all West Bank collegiates must sit for, and pass, if they intend to pursue their studies further.

The education authorities have notified all West Bank colleges that they will not validate any certificates issued by these colleges, nor will they allow West Bank students or graduates to obtain the necessary documents facilitating their quest for employment abroad, if they do not sit for the examination, set for August 15 this year.

Examination supervisor Omar Zaghah said three centres have been set up in the West Bank, and registration has begun.

### HARASSMENT AT HEBREW U.

JERUSALEM — Arab students at Hebrew University are protesting against renewed harassment by campus guards.

The Arab-Jewish student movement, CAMPUS, said in a letter to university authorities that Arab students are being arrested and questioned about their work and activities.

CAMPUS asked for an urgent investigation.

### LAND GRAB OPPOSED

NAZARETH — The delegation of the heads of Arab local councils to the Knesset held a meeting to decide on a unified stand in their re-scheduled meeting with the Knesset Internal Affairs Committee.

The delegates were to have met with the committee last week, but their meeting was cancelled in retaliation for the one-day council strike protesting Arab land expropriations in the Galilee.

The delegates reiterated their determination to oppose the Israeli government's land-grab attempts and the incorporation of 180,000 dunums of Arab land into the jurisdiction of the Misgav regional council.

### UNION VANDALISM

JERUSALEM — Unidentified vandals have once more raided the headquarters of the union of hotel workers in Jerusalem.

This is the fourth time hotel workers have had their headquarters ransacked. The raiding party destroyed furniture and tore up documents, after breaking down the door.

Sea-Mediterranean canal, have alleged that the study they prepared for the Dead Sea Company as been tampered with.

Shmuel Ben Ya'acov and his two colleagues charge their findings have been "forged."

The Israeli opposition Alignment intends to ask for an inquiry into the scientists' allegations.

### DHEISHEH BANKRUPTCY

BETHLEHEM — Shop owners in the Palestinian refugee camp of Dheisheh, near Bethlehem, are facing bankruptcy.

The Israeli military authorities ordered all shops along the camp's main street closed two weeks ago, and then proceeded to seal the main entrance to the camp.

The shop owners say all shops along the street are losing money daily, and if they are not reopened soon, owners will face bankruptcy.

## June 14, 1983

### MORE OF CAMP SEALED

JERUSALEM — Israeli occupation authorities have sealed an entrance of Kalandia camp. Israeli troops have placed barbed wires at the entrance to the camp, cutting off all vehicular access to it.

Military sources said they sealed the camp in response to stone-throwing incidents.

**RAMALLAH, June 12 — Raw sewage is spilling out into the main section of the Jerusalem-Ramallah highway, causing a health hazard, and endangering motorists. Residents complain that the municipal maintenance workers were slow to begin repairing the damage caused to the sewer system, and worry that with the onset of of warm weather, they are running a serious risk of contamination and infection. Work finally began this week.**

### RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION

JERUSALEM — Arab and Jewish students attending Bar Ilan University are complaining that they are facing increasing difficulties in finding accommodation on campus.

Student spokesmen said the non-religious Jews and the Arabs are being discriminated against. Their freedom of expression has been drastically curtailed.

### CANAL FORGED!

JERUSALEM — The three Israeli scientists entrusted with the task of preparing a report on the viability of the proposed Dead

### LAND FRAUD, OK?

JERUSALEM — A Labour Party motion urging the Israeli state comptroller to investigate land sales in the West Bank was struck ff the Knesset record. The ruling Likud said Labour Alignment was solely motivated by its determination to bring down the government, and was not interested in an investigation. The opposition said the government wanted to conceal the truth.

### SETTLING IN CLOVER

JERUSALEM — Jewish settlers have never had it so good, according to the Israeli papers.

At a time when telephone applicants may have to wait years, prospective settlers have theirs waiting for them, even before they move into their new homes.

This is particularly true of West Bank Jewish settlements where the number of housing units and telephones far exceeds actual or potential tenants.

In the Ariel settlement, for instance, the Communications Ministry has installed nearly 465 telephones for 200 families.

### SOME STUDENTS FREED

NABLUS — Six students from al-Najah University were released by the Israeli military authorities, after being held for over a week. At least double this number continue to be held in custody.

Among those released are the president and vice-president of the university's student council.

The students were arrested following a demonstration marking the twin anniversaries of the 1967 war and the invasion of Lebanon.

The released students said they were not interrogated during their detention.

### CATTLE LICENSES

NAZARETH — Galilee cattle breeders complain they are being harassed by the health ministry and have lost several head of cattle on the pretext that these were not "licensed."

Residents of the village of Yirka said health officials, accompanied by large numbers of border police, have been descending upon their farms and confiscating cattle "because they had not been licensed."

They said they are being discriminated against, since nearby Jewish settlers also own large numbers of unlicensed cattle — but are not being penalised for it.

Jabalia camp, Gaza

# Gaza Training: The Governor's Words

When the reserve soldiers arrive in the early evening at the military compound in Gaza, they see a strange scene with hundreds of Arab youths standing in the yard while an Israeli officer stands in front of them and preaches, with some screaming and shouting. Later the youths are released to return to the empty streets of Gaza.

The young Colonel Eli, 30 years old, fat and of medium height, stands in front of the reserve soldiers with a long club in his hand. His first question to the soldiers is whether anyone among them has served in a police role in Arab areas in the past. None of those present raises his hand, so Colonel Eli concludes that the soldiers are going to hear a three hour lecture from him. Most of the soldiers laugh, because they know that most of the instructions to reserve soldiers don't last more than half-an-hour.

Eli doesn't like to be called a military governor. In his instructions, he explains the structure of Israeli rule in the Gaza Strip. He called the 'civil administration' the "carrot" and the military forces, who keep order under the occupation, the "club." To ensure that the inhabitants feel the difference, Gaza was divided into different regions there are two 'civil administration' regions and three military regions.

It is difficult to tell whether anyone takes this division seriously. All of the 'civil administration' personnel are soldiers and officers, and their ways and views cannot be changed only because of the name of the building where they sit. The Arab youth caught throwing stones by the soldiers are actually punished by the body called the "carrot." The difference between the two is not clear to them. All of them relate to the Israelis as a foreign ruler, and the division of the carrot" and the "club" is very strange in their eyes.

Colonel Eli explains some very important things about the region to the new reserve soldiers. Gaza is the largest site in the area. Four hundred thousand Palestinians live in the city itself and in the refugee camps around it. The natural growth rate in Gaza is the highest in the world, says Colonel Eli. The size of a normal family is over 20. Each man marries two, three, or even four women and each delivers a few children. When it comes to the refugees, welfare payments from the UN are IS10,000 for every child. That means that every month the father of the family gets IS200,000 or more. "And if they go to work, all this money is net in their pocket," Eli explains.

In the entire Gaza Strip there are 5-600,000 Palestinian Arabs. Two thousand Jews live in eight different settlements in Hevel Katif. "Lately," says Eli, "they have established a new settlement. a wonderful one where 24 persons from 12 families live." What Eli doesn t tell the soldiers, but which becomes clear to them later, is the fact that this settlement is deserted during the week, and its owners, a few families from Yamit, use it as a vacation home for weekends.

Eli doesn't explicitly say so, but his description of the area leaves no doubt that the Israelis have nothing much to gain in Gaza.

The Gaza Strip is one of the most populated areas in the whole world, and there is no place for "state land" expropriations, as is the case in the West Bank. The Palestinian demographic advantage is very clear here, and they have no reason to worry that Israel may annex the Gaza Strip, and there is no chance that Israel will expand the Jewish settlements in the area.

It's not necessary for Colonel Eli to say all this. All the soldiers who serve in the occupation army in the Gaza Strip for three weeks can see that there is no reason why the Israelis should stay there. One soldier said, "I felt like a small flea lying on a big dog." Another soldier said that Israel should build a wall around Gaza so that no people or goods could be transferred, and then Israel could be detached from it.

Eli moves on to talk about the policing task of the group. He displays statistical facts about the 'hits' in Gaza. On a big board, he draws all the figures concerning the "hits' during the last year. As each month's figures appear separately, he shows all the hand grenades thrown during each month; the number of violent demonstrations every month; the number of Israeli soldiers hurt every month; the number of grenades and ammunition discovered every month; the number of Palestinian prisoners, and the number of all the demonstrations every month.

"The Arabs," says Eli, "have many anniversaries, and every one is good reason for a demonstration. First of all, they have our holidays Balfour Declaration Day, Independence Day the Six-Day War Day, Yom Kippur War Day. And also Land Day, the day of the attack on al-Aqsa, and there are some other days which don't appear on the calendar, but are also good reasons for demonstrations."

Eli moves on to talk about the procedures for arresting suspects. Every man, from 16 years old up, is a suspect as long as he is able to walk – to 60, 65, or 70-year-olds. "Every third man in Gaza is a PLO member," says Eli. "If you see three men on the street, the third is a PLO member." One more characteristic of a suspect: "A person who is not in the right place, for instance, if you see a man with a suit and tie in a field, or a person with a knife. But don't enter every butcher shop to arrest people."

Eli looks over his soldiers and says, "What is this! All of you are Ashkenazim." Finally he chooses a soldier who doesn't look Ashkenazi, and asks him to play the suspect. And Eli shows how they should search a suspect. The most important part of the search "is to move the palm of your hand along the inner side of the thigh, up and down. He didn't even notice it,' says Eli, "but I also have checked his balls. The Arabs know that Israelis don t like to check their balls, and that's why they hide grenades there." He starts telling the soldiers about an incident that took place in Palestine Square in the centre of town. One young Arab who hid a grenade in his underwear succeeded in putting it on a soldier's back. The soldier, who was a command car driver, felt uncomfortable, checked and found the grenade and quickly threw the grenade which hit a Renault car, killing both of its Arab passengers. The explosion caused punctures in the rear tyres of the command car, but the soldier continued to drive to his military base.

Eli explains how they should disperse demonstrations in the schools. The kids leave the school and start throwing stones. They throw and throw until the attack force is called for help. When the help arrives, they escape immediately to the classrooms, and begin writing things on the board, like "Go and find who threw the stones." What do we do in such a case? You send a soldier who stands outside by the window, and make sure that he can't be seen by the kids. When they all stand, you ask them to hold out their hands. Those who took part in the stone throwing will start rubbing their hands behind their back, and on their pants. And the soldier who stands behind them can see this and in this way, you will be able to identify stone-throwers."

Now Eli talks about demonstration dispersal in general. He warns the soldiers not to use arms. The worst thing is to kill or injure someone. When there is a death, there is a funeral, and a funeral usually turns into a demonstration. When there is a big demonstration, you usually shoot and instead of one funeral, we will have two or four funerals, and all of Gaza will boil. So don't shoot if you find yourselves in such a situation. Simply leave and if you call that an escape, so what, let it be an escape. It is much better to escape and call for help, rather than to kill. When the help comes, you run and catch those who threw stones, put them in cars and bring them to the military building.

"What about children?" one soldier asked. "You don't touch them, no slapping, nothing. You catch the kid and free him, and follow him to see into which house he enters. At night you come back to the house and wake up the father and tell him: 'What your son did is not nice. Come tomorrow in the morning to the military building. The father comes in the next day, and waits there for a few hours. The officer receives him and talks with him about education and asks the father to come in the next day, and so on for the whole week. Believe me, these educational hours work on the son as well because during all this time, the father doesn't go to work."

With bigger kids, the process is different. Colonel Eli explains to the soldiers what they saw in the yard when they arrived. The youths are called to come to the military compound or to the 'civil administration' compound. They spend the whole day there, from 6:00 am in the morning until 6:00 pm, once or twice a week. They have to come with their parents who wait with them. This process can take a few weeks, twelve hours a day for hundreds of youths in Gaza. Later on, there is a sort of court and fines will be imposed on them. The fines range from IS7000 to IS30,000 and sometimes more but never less.

Colonel Eli warns the soldiers about the Jabalia refugee camp and he repeats his warning many times: "You have to keep Jabalia on a low flame. That's all we need, if Jabalia starts boiling! We will have to call for a division to come here to keep the 40,000 refugees in their place."

He continues on demonstration dispersal: "There are many kinds of tear gas grenades. Some look like hand grenades, which you throw from a 10 metre distance. Some you fire with a rifle. And you will also find some new ones like the jumping grenades. The advantage of these is that demonstrators cannot throw them back. The jumping grenades are very hot when the gas is freed from them, and if someone tries to catch one and throw it back, the grenade will stick to his hand and it will be necessary to operate on the hand to detach it from the grenade. The jumping grenades move fast on the ground, and they cover larger areas with tear gas. But the tear gas grenades are no longer effective, because the people here have gotten used to their smell and can't live without it."

Toward the end of his speech, Colonel Eli summarises about the ideological neutrality of the occupation: "It could be that people among you belong to Tehiya, Peace Now and Sheli," he says. "I don't care. Your task here is to keep everything quiet so that the decision-makers in the government will be able to decide with a clear mind, without always having demonstrations, deaths and confusion here." (Translation: HaOlam HaZeh 11.5.83)